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亡き父の再婚相手・ちびっこ美女のモモさんと暮らす事になったヒマリとコータ。
部会から田舎へ――
突然始まった3人共同生活の行方は？
実力派絵師が贈るハートフル・ホームコメディ!!

ももそら
Presented by
ITOKATSU

既刊好評発売中!! SUPER JUMP 掲載陣のコミックス

- JIN-仁- 全20巻 村上もとか
- ゼロ THE MAN OF THE CREATION 「77巻まで」 愛英史＋里見桂
- マリー・アントワネットの料理人 「2巻まで」 白川晶＋里見桂
- そして、僕は君に選ある 全2巻 小谷憲一
- DESIRE 全7巻 小谷憲一
- ふくマン 全6巻 徳弘正也
- 暁!!男塾 全25巻 宮下あきら
- 天下無双 全10巻 宮下あきら
- 「きらら」の仕事ワールドバトル 全7巻 早川光＋橋本孤蔵
- 最強大格闘!! 最太の味 全4巻 早川光＋橋本孤蔵
- 王様の仕立て屋 全32巻 大河原遁
- バーテンダー 「20巻まで」 城アラキ＋長友健誼
- 美少女いんばら! 「2巻まで」 北村源児
- 指パン一族子美伝～ 「3巻まで」 星野浩字
- 雷媒師いすな 「3巻まで」 真島翔＋堀野剛
- ゴタ消し!! 談交渉人 白井虎次郎 「3巻まで」 大沢俊太郎
- 君と僕のアシアト 「4巻まで」 よしづきくみち
- よしづきくみち短編集 君と僕のアシアト よしづきくみち
- コクジョッ。 「5巻まで」 宮崎摩耶
- 君のナイフ 「6巻まで」 小手川ゆあ
- 地獄のアリス 「2巻まで」 松本次郎
- ごっこ 「1巻まで」 小路啓之
- もし東京都の女子マネージャーがトラッカーの「マネジメント」を読んだら 「1巻まで」 岩崎夏海＋橋本すず
- Dr.DMAT 「1巻まで」 高野洋＋菊地昭夫
- ソウルメッセンジャー 「1巻まで」 藤沢とおる＋きたがわ翔
- JUDGE MEN 全2巻 東條仁
- ももそら イトカツ
- 15の春 坂野真
- ほっとDog 石川優吾
- 本屋さんにきました。 若狭たけし
- うっかり♡マリ子さん 葉月京
- リングにかけろ2 全28巻 車田正美
- ナッちゃん 東京編 全3巻 たなかじゅん
- キメラ 全2巻 緒方てい
- おくさま予備校 山口譲司
- トクボウ監査室甲 全8巻 高橋秀武
- 天下人ソウル 全2巻 鮫島真
- サンクチュアリー 全2巻 沖方丁＋野口賢

JUMP COMICS DELUXE

ももそら

MOMO SORA

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イトカツ

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SJ JUMP COMICS DELUXE

ももそら

イトカツ

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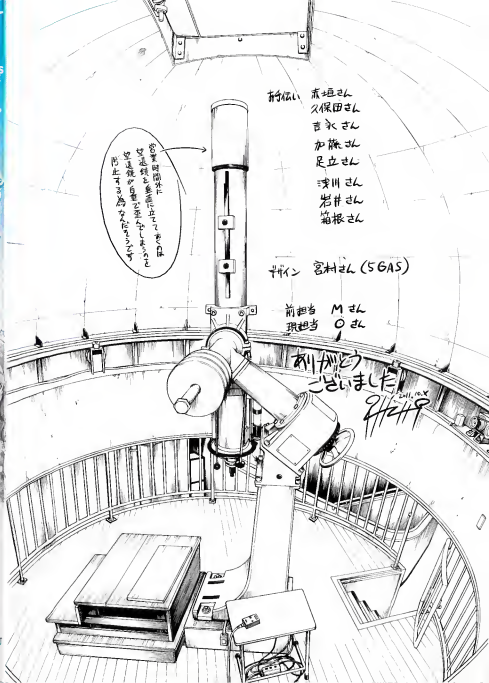
集英社



ももそら

MOMO SORA

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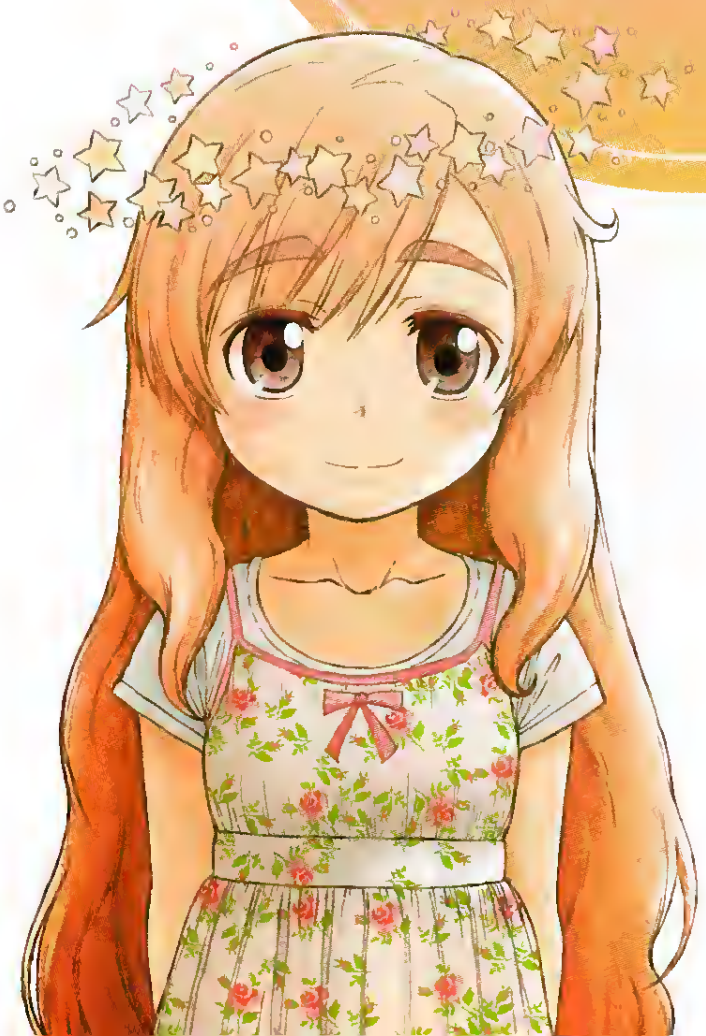
003 第1話 お泊まり
033 第2話 マンガ
057 第3話 入れ替わり
075 第4話 ラーメンパーティー
093 第5話 初めての
111 第6話 修学旅行
129 第7話 初めて酒
147 第8話 学祭
165 第9話 夏祭り
183 第10話 お正月
201 第11話 バレンタイン



ももそら

Presents the

ITOKATSU

★この作品はフィクションです。
実在の人物・団体・事件などには、
いっさい関係ありません。

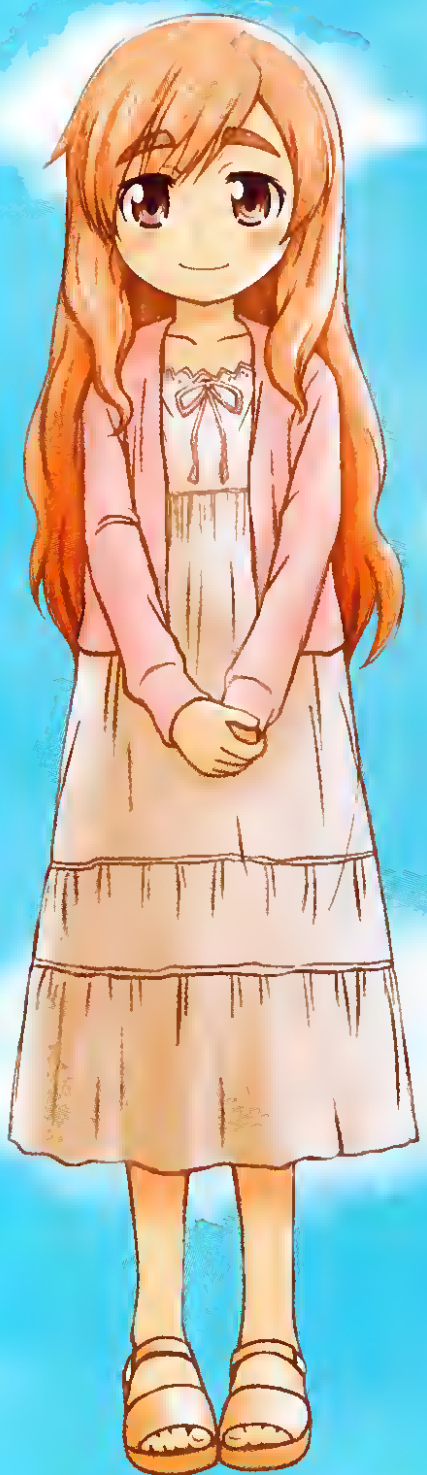
YOU CAN CALL ME "MOM", OKAY?

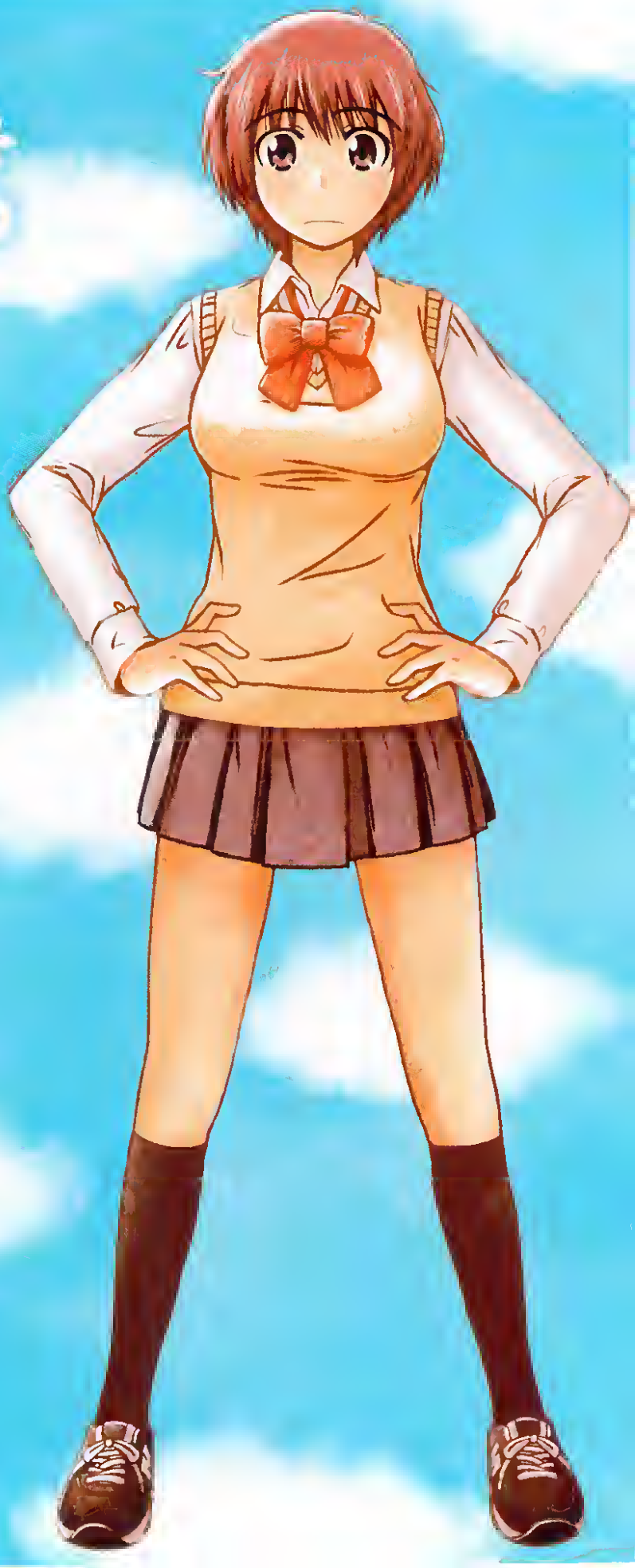
NO...
ERRRRRRR-

ももそら

MOMO SORA

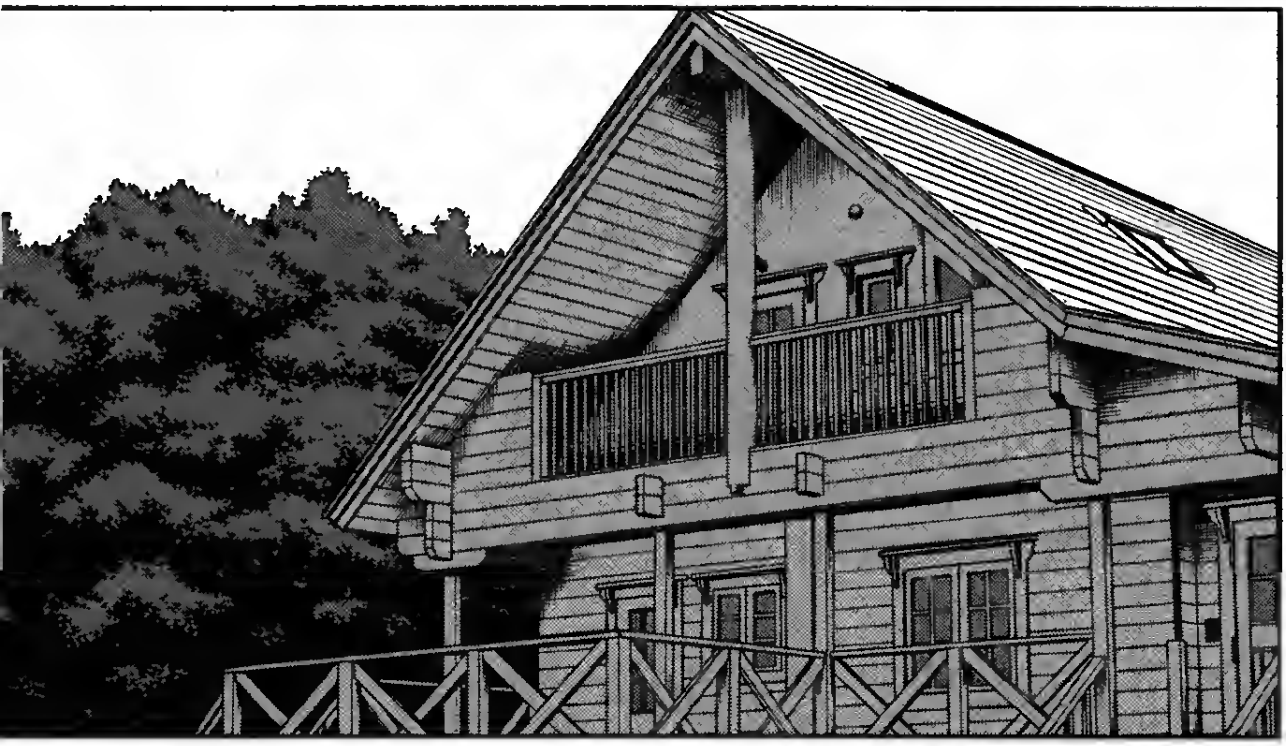
Chapter 1 Mom

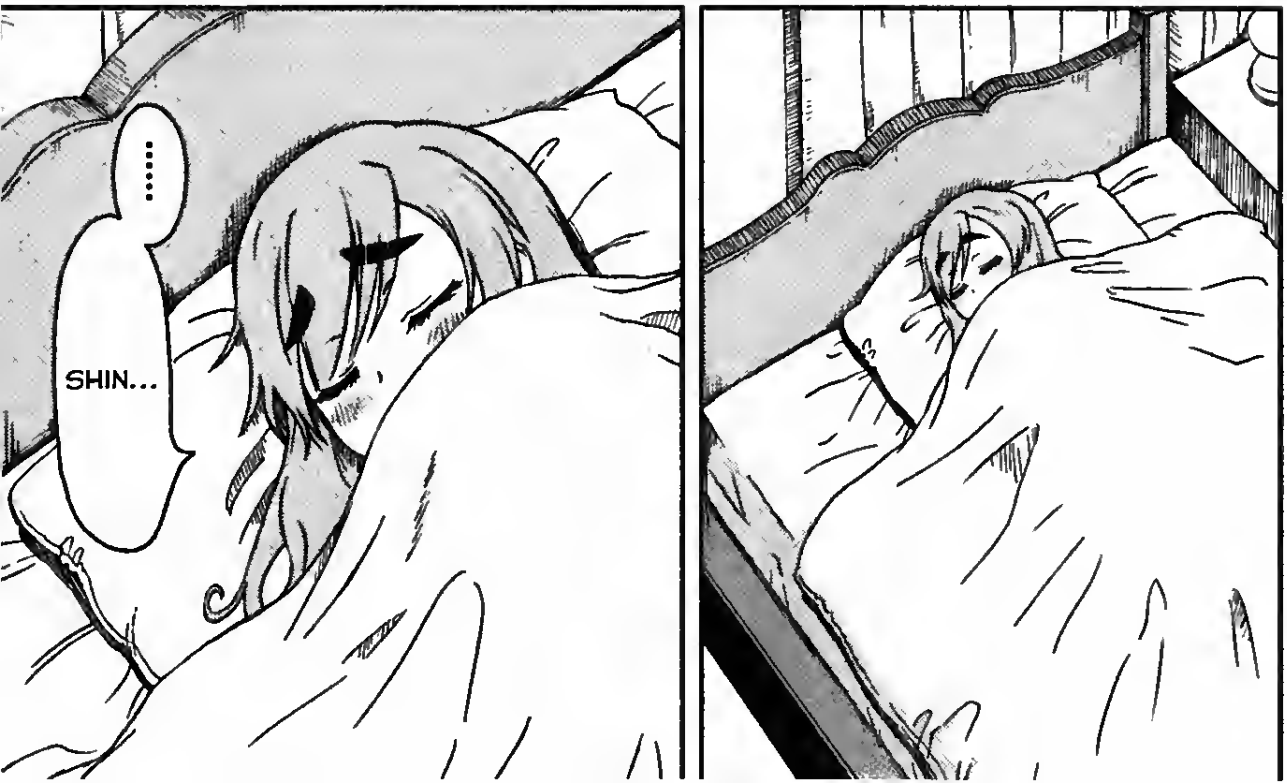


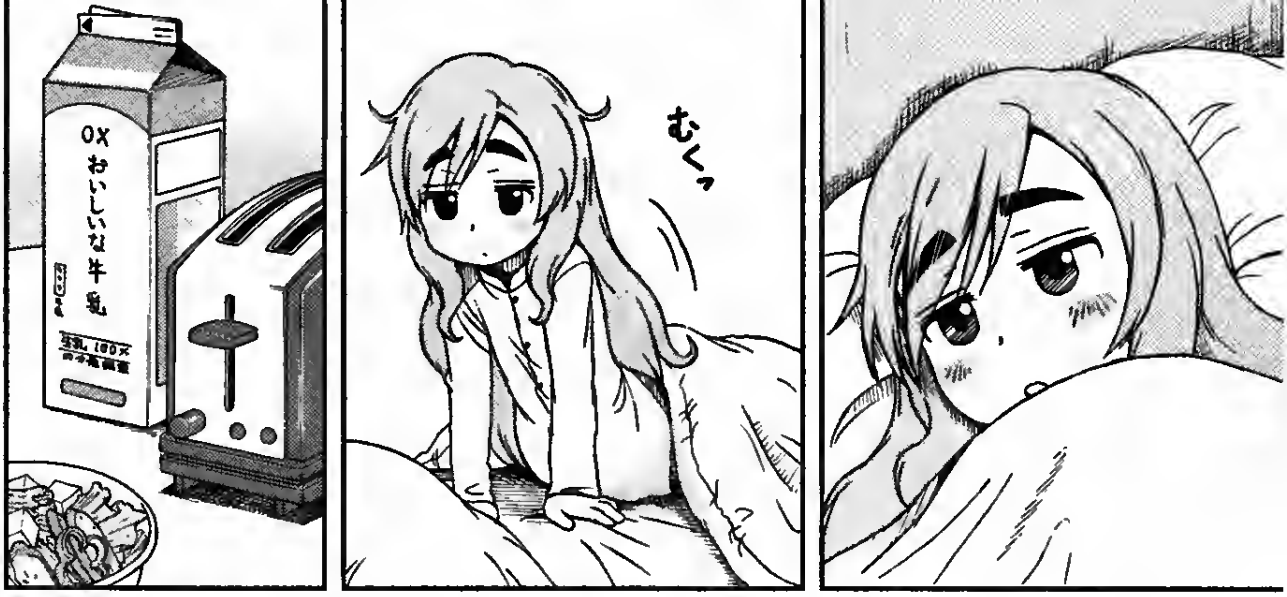


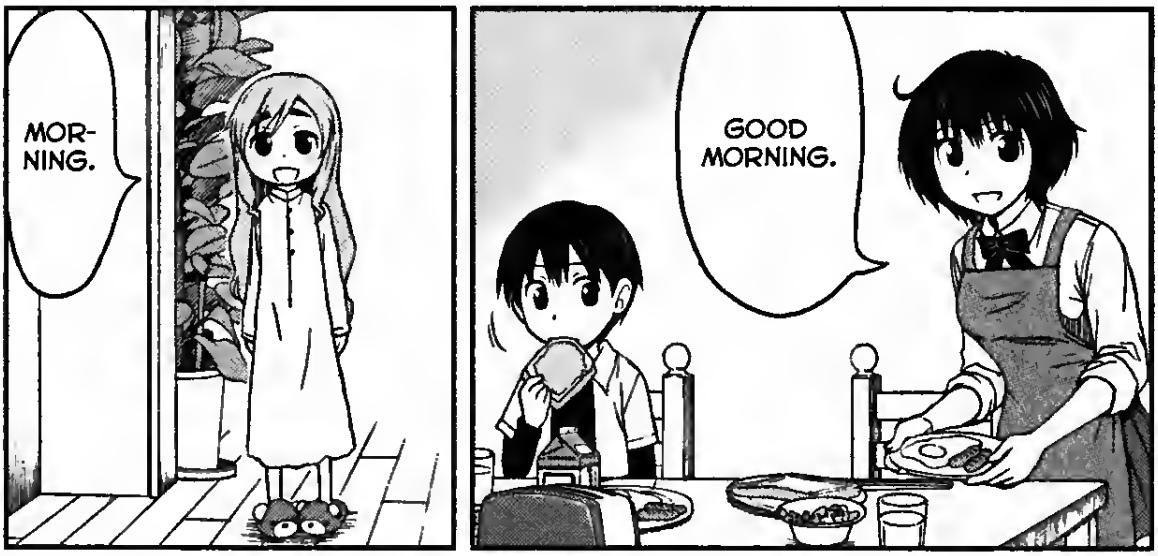
THAT'S UNREASONABLE, FOR VARIOUS REASONS.
KU-MA

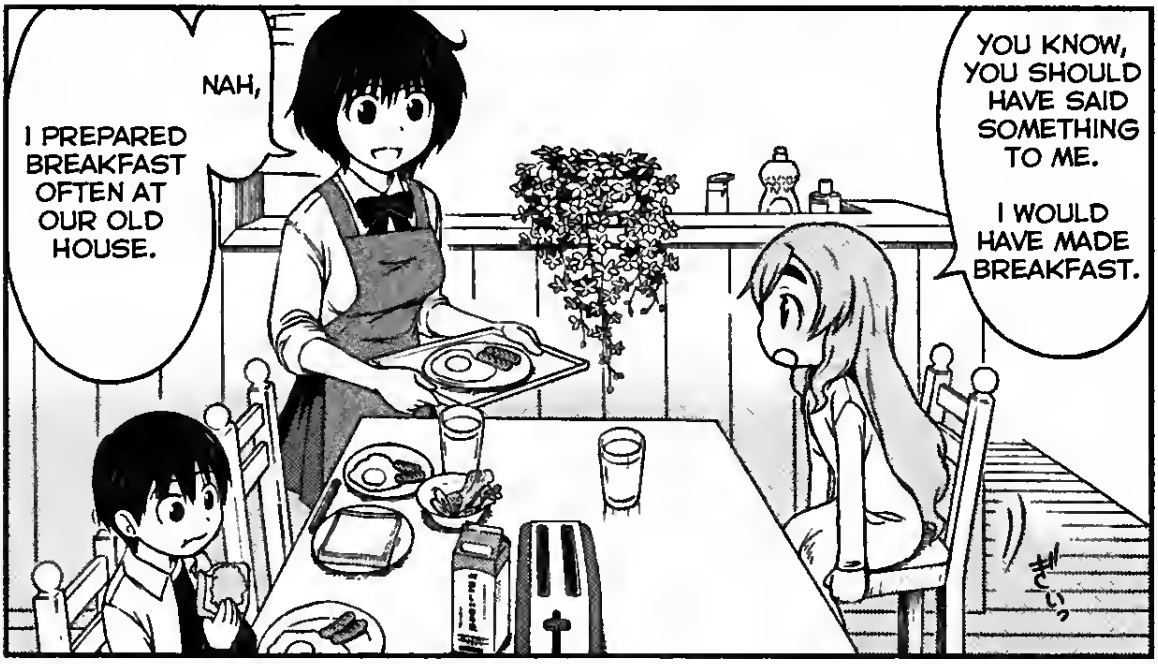
MY FATHER DIED SUDDENLY
MY FATHER REMARRIED
MY YOUNGER BROTHER, NONOHARA KOUTA.
MYSELF, NONOHARA HIMARI.
WE WERE LEFT BEHIND, THE CHILDREN OF HIS FORMER WIFE.
AND...
SMALL AND BEAUTIFUL, LIKE A FRENCH DOLL.
SHORTER THAN MY FIFTH GRADE BROTHER.



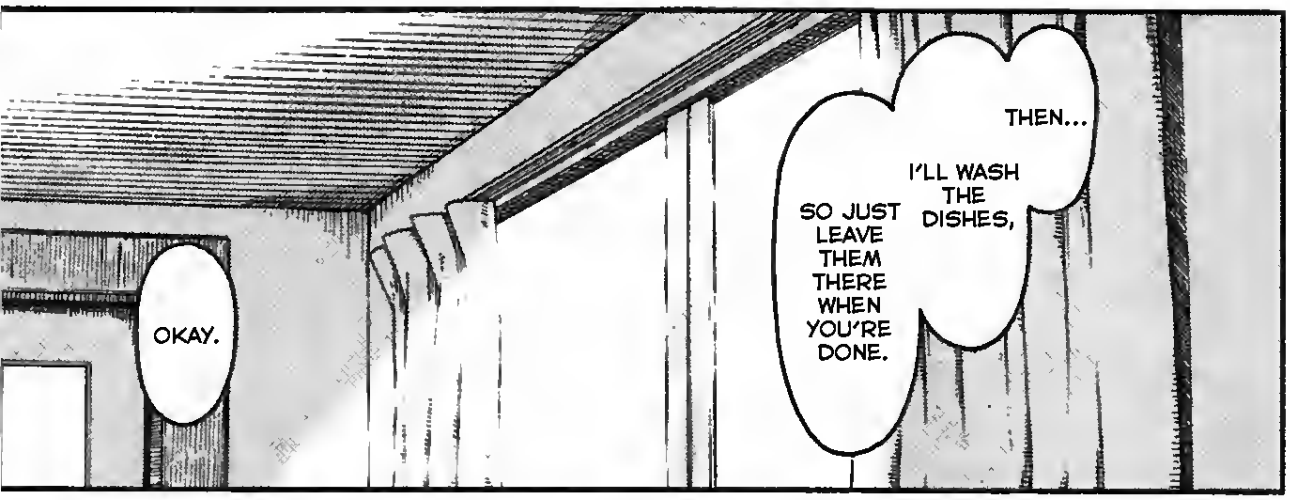

.....
SHIN...


OX おいしいな牛乳
むくっ

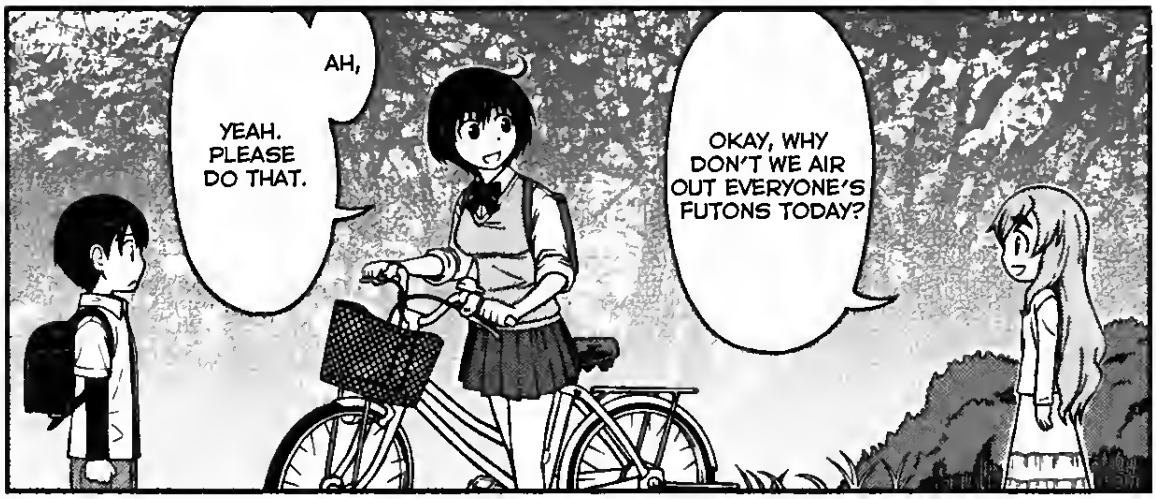

MOR-
NING.
GOOD
MORNING.


NAH,
I PREPARED BREAKFAST OFTEN AT OUR OLD HOUSE.
YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING TO ME.
I WOULD HAVE MADE BREAKFAST.
ぎぃっ

MOMO,
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU STAYED UP AGAIN TIL LATE YESTERDAY
YOU SHOULD BE GETTING MORE RESTFUL SLEEP.

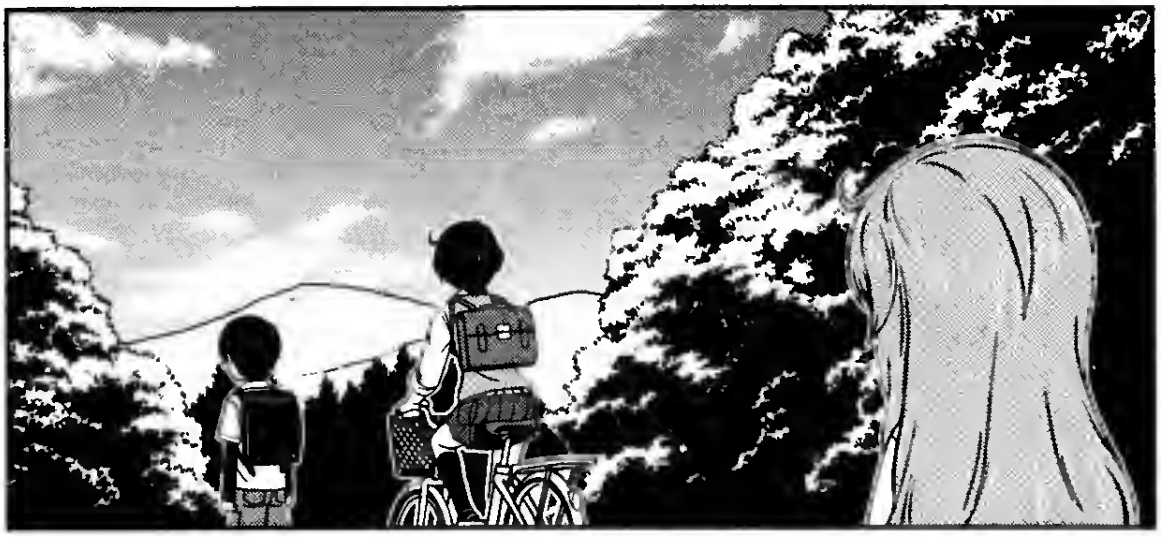

THEN...
I'LL WASH THE DISHES,
SO JUST LEAVE THEM THERE WHEN YOU'RE DONE.
OKAY.

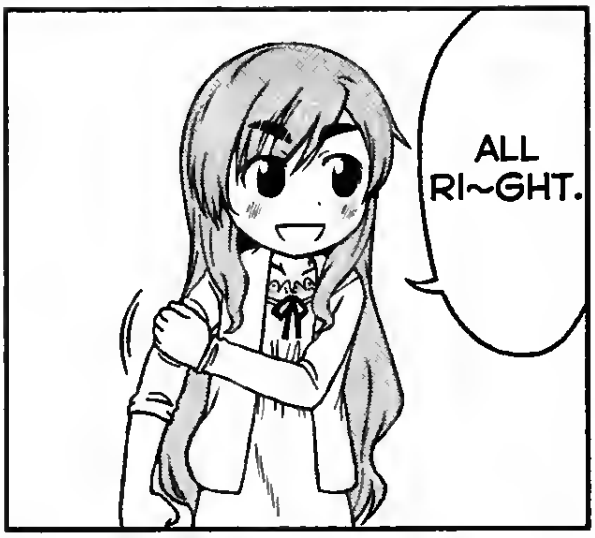
TODAY LOOKS LIKE GOOD LAUNDRY WEATHER.
THAT'S RIGHT.

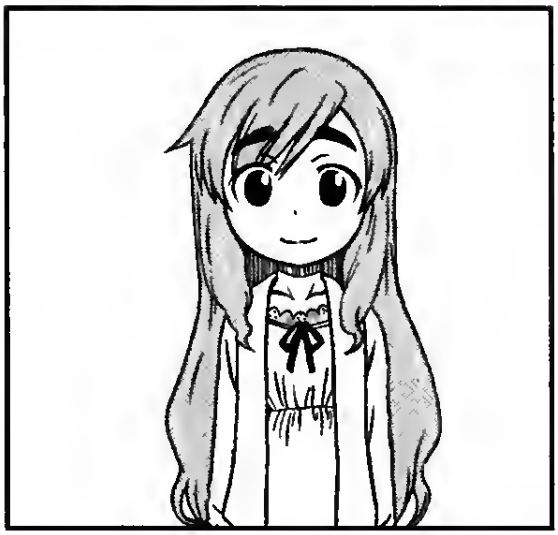

AH,
YEAH. PLEASE DO THAT.
OKAY, WHY DON'T WE AIR OUT EVERYONE'S FUTONS TODAY?

TAKE CARE.

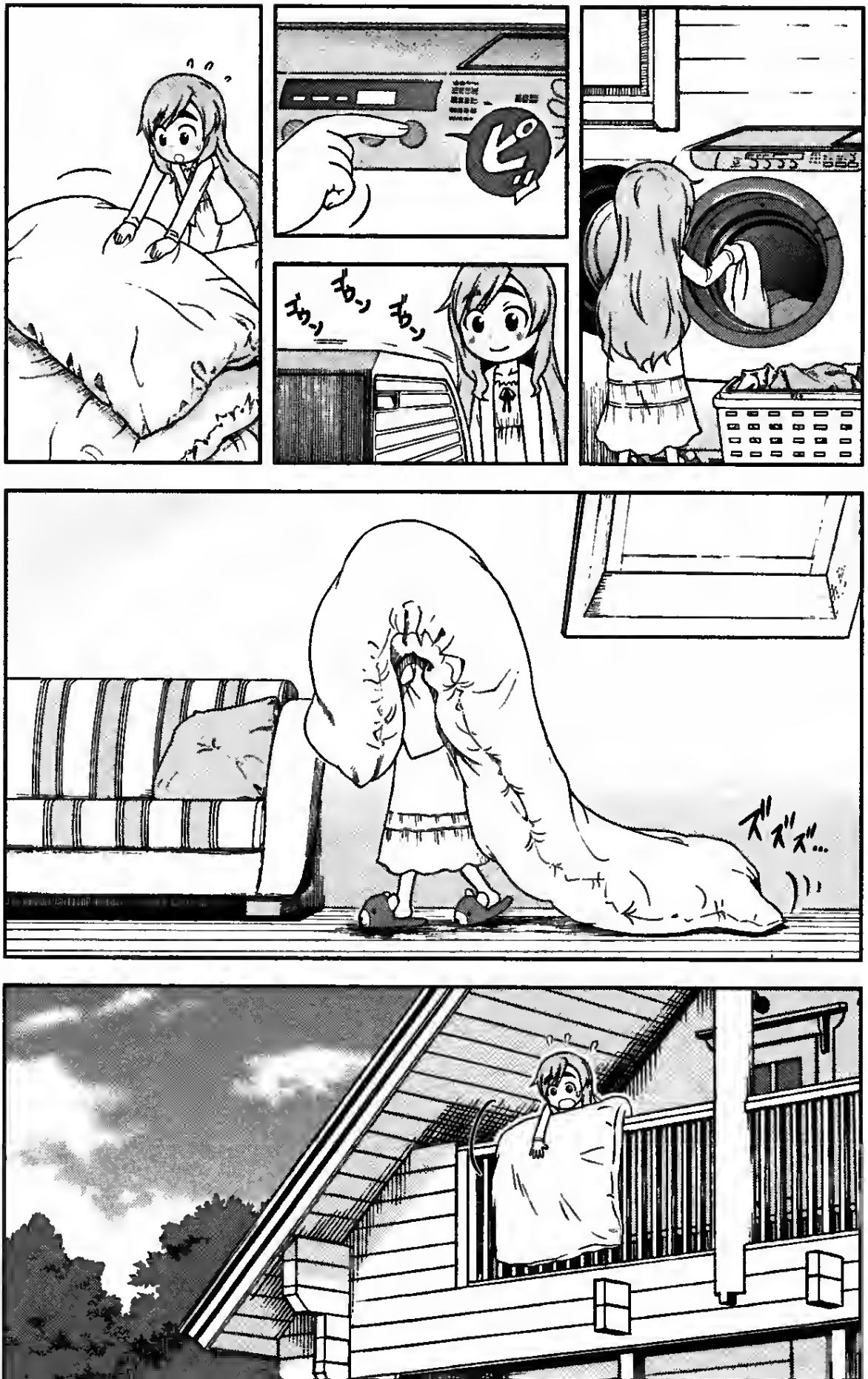
SEE YOU LATER.

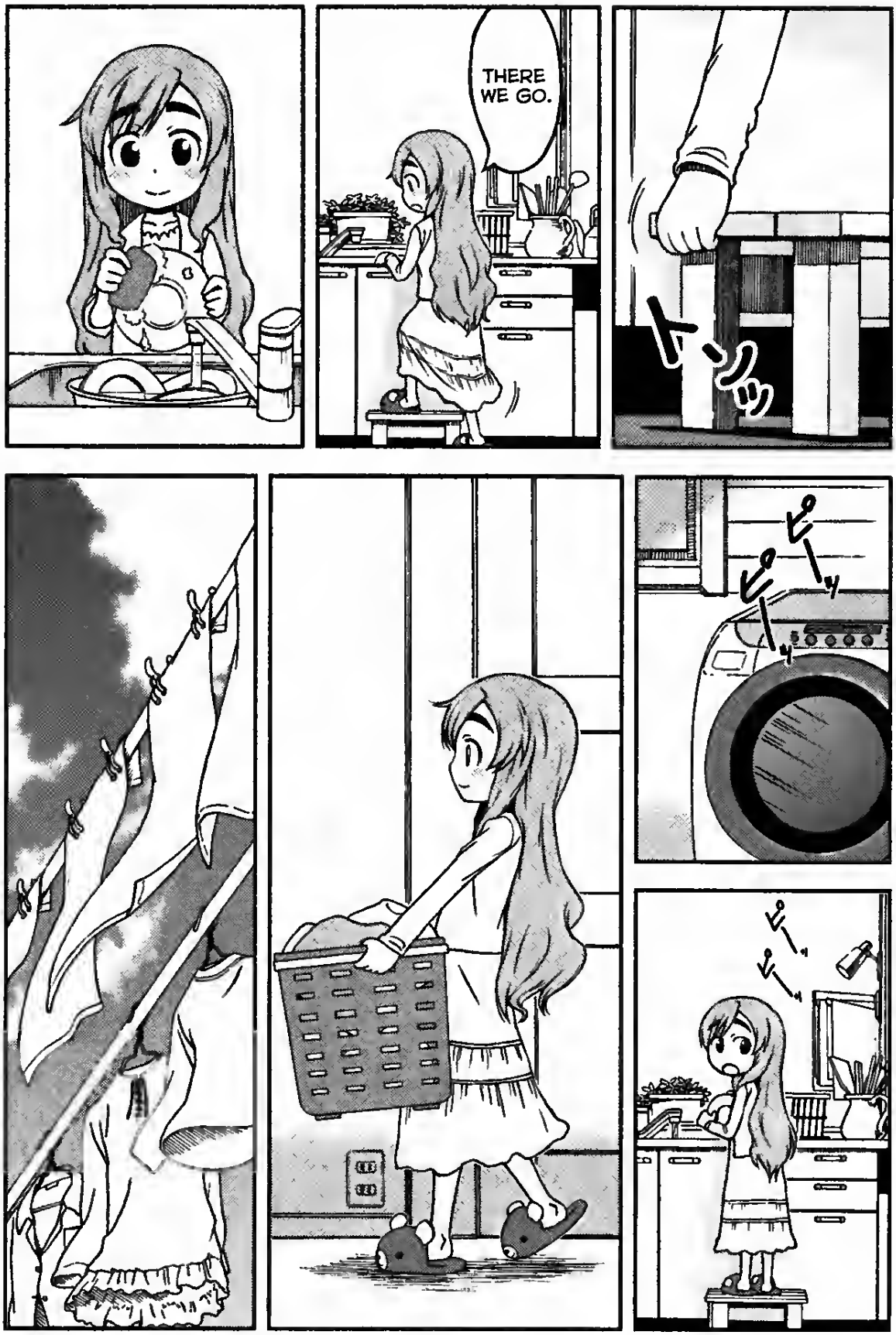



ALL
RI~GHT.

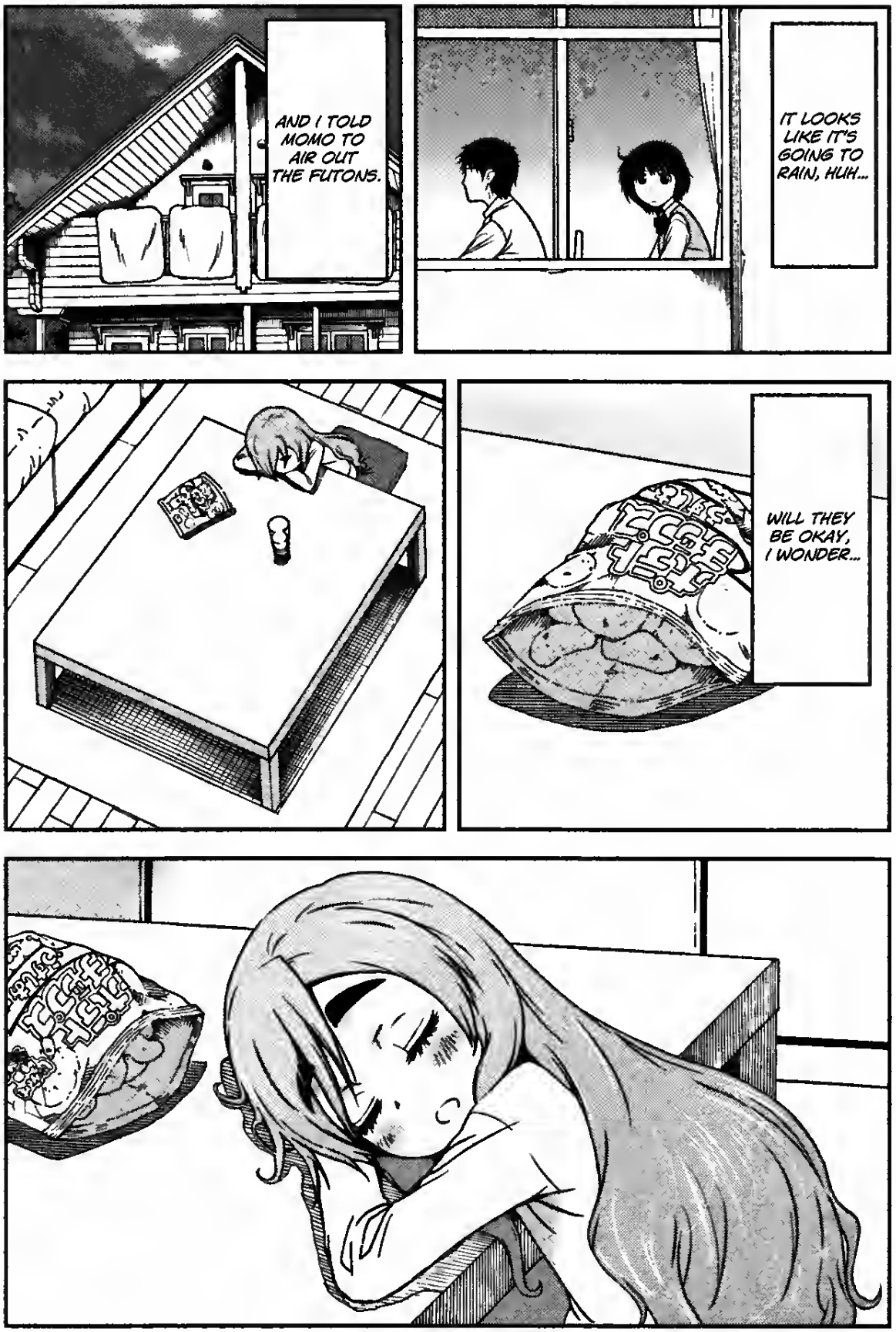


FIRST OF
ALL, THE
LAUNDRY.

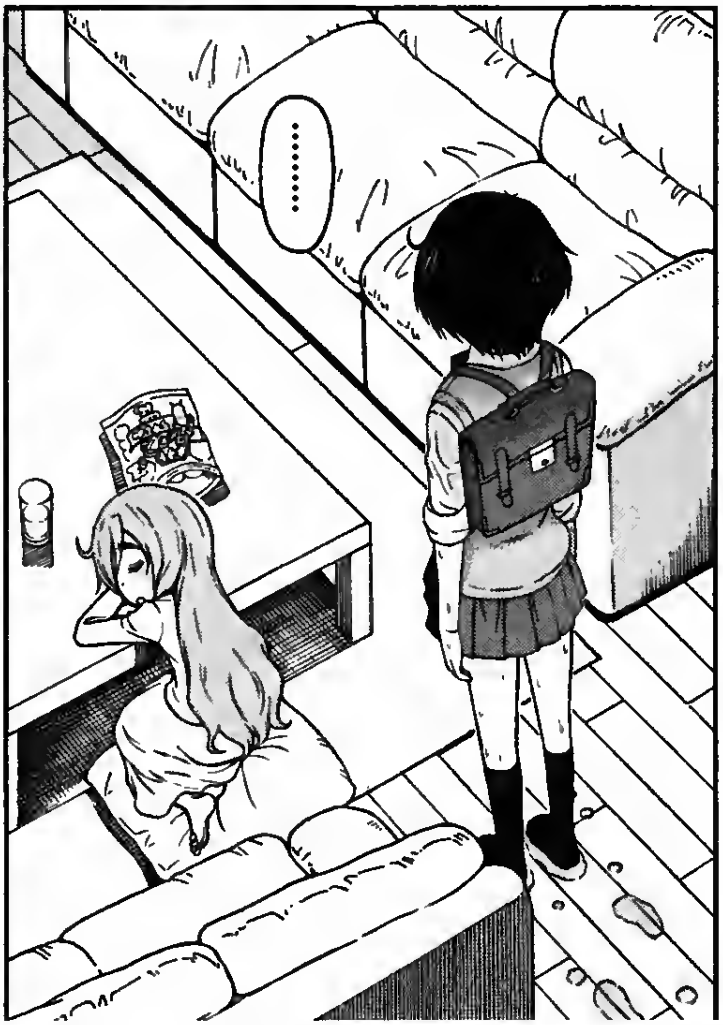

ピッ
ズズズ…


THERE WE GO.
トンッ
ピー
ピー
ピー

MMMMMMMMM-
ぐぐっ
HEY!
PAY ATTENTION TO THE LESSON, NONOHARA.
YE~S.
Ah~
This class is su~per boring
Won't it end already~
OH.


AND I TOLD MOMO TO AIR OUT THE FUTONS.
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO RAIN, HUH...
WILL THEY BE OKAY, I WONDER...

MOMO.
PLEASE WAKE UP.
MOMO.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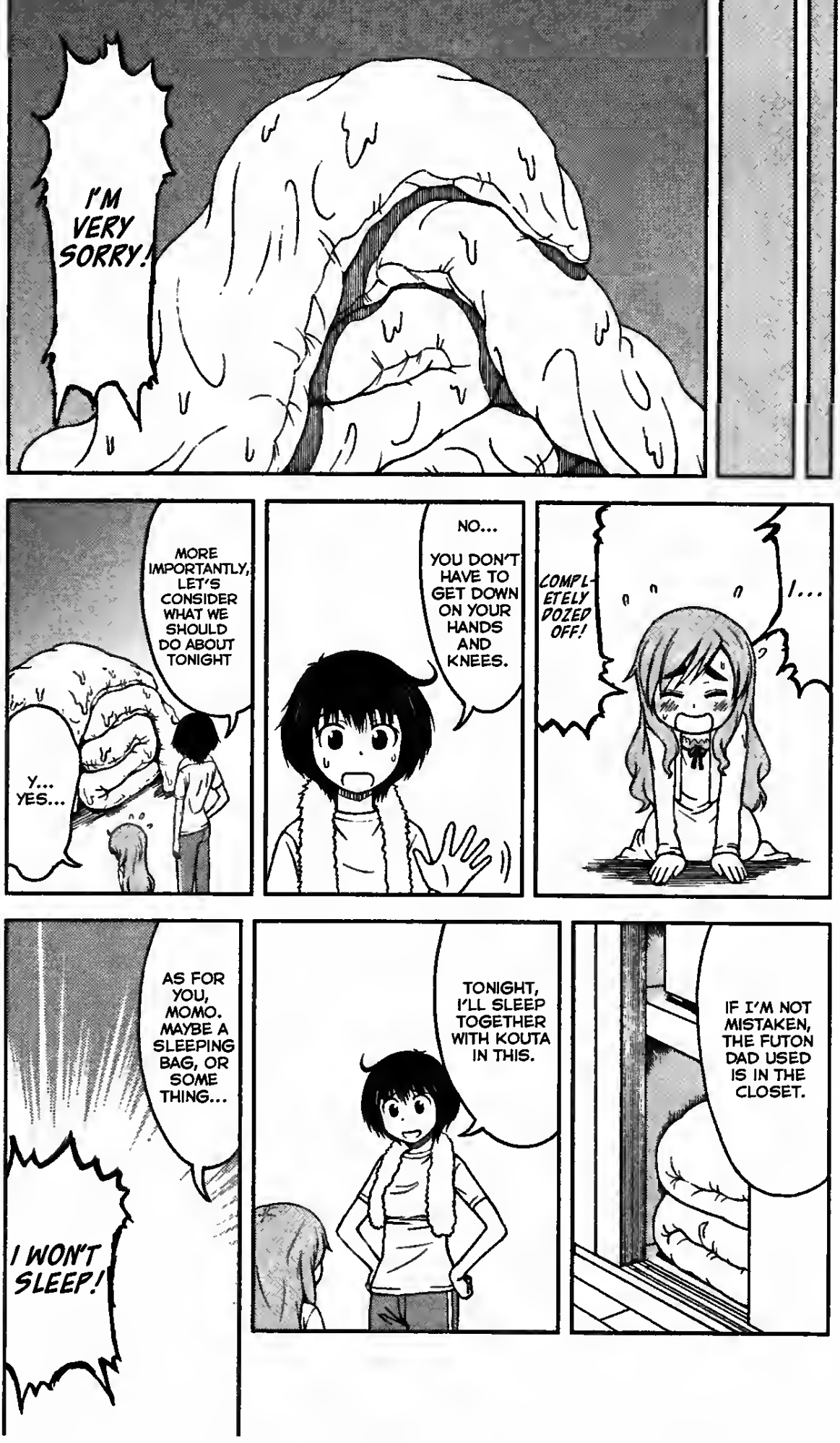
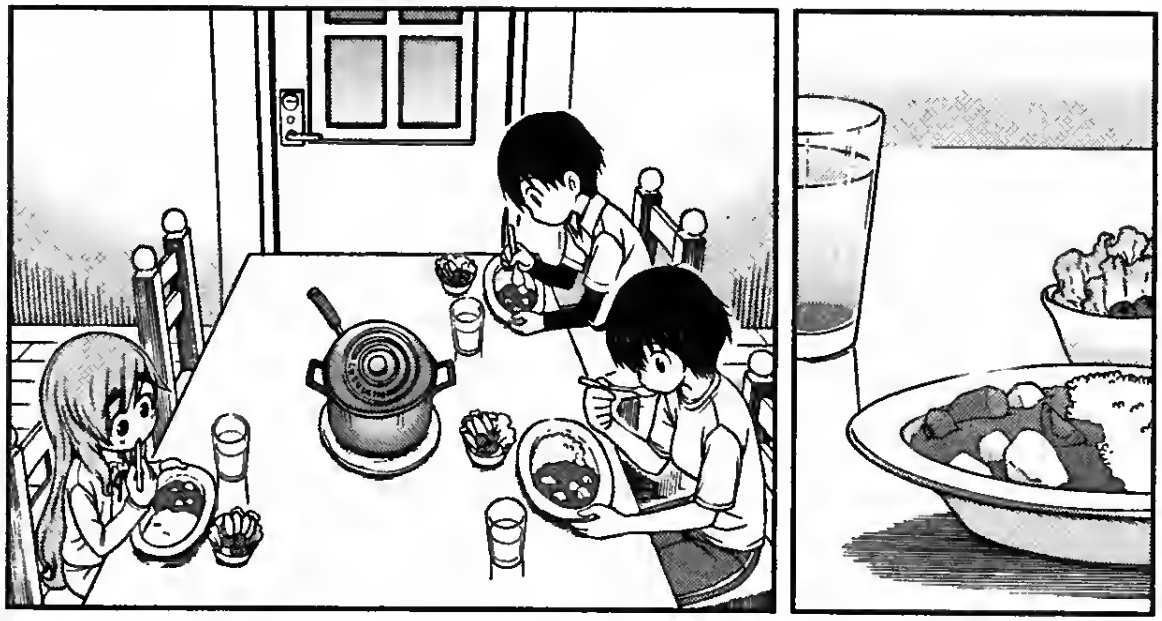
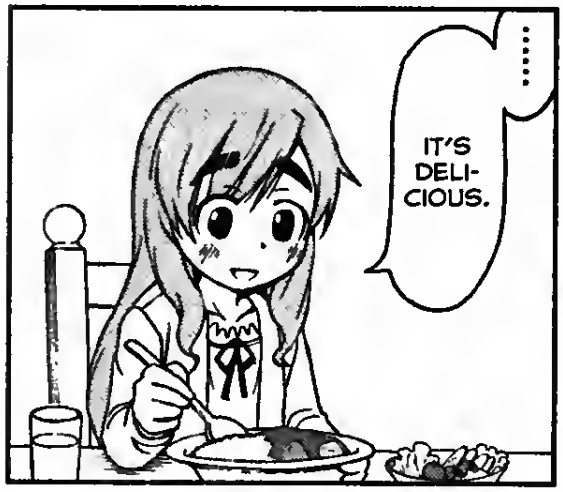
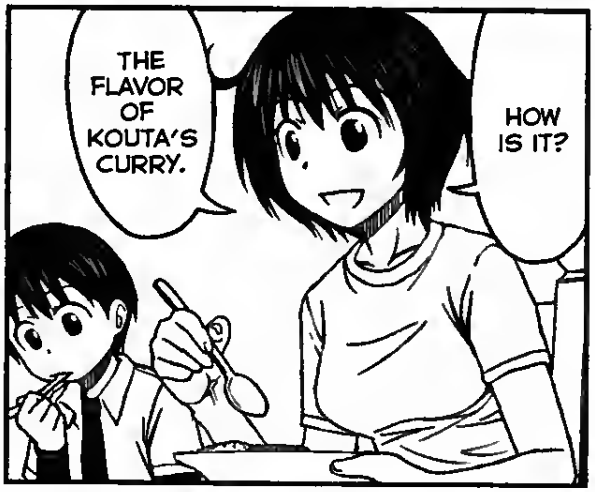

I'M VERY SORRY!
MORE IMPORTANTLY, LET'S CONSIDER WHAT WE SHOULD DO ABOUT TONIGHT
Y... YES...
NO... YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET DOWN ON YOUR HANDS AND KNEES.
COMPLETELY DOZED OFF!
I...
AS FOR YOU, MOMO. MAYBE A SLEEPING BAG, OR SOME THING...
I WON'T SLEEP!
TONIGHT, I'LL SLEEP TOGETHER WITH KOUTA IN THIS.
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THE FUTON DAD USED IS IN THE CLOSET.

AFTER ALL, IT'S MY FAULT THE FUTONS ARE SOAKING WET.
NO.
I WON'T SLEEP.
UNEX-PECTEDLY STUBBORN, THIS ONE.
NO! THIS IS MY PUNISH-MENT!
YOU'LL DESTROY YOUR BODY DOING THAT. PLEASE SLEEP.
YOU MADE DINNER?
THE CURRY'S DONE.
OH. THANK YOU.
EH?
SI~S

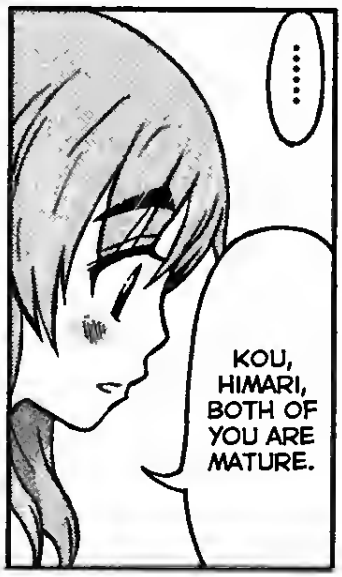


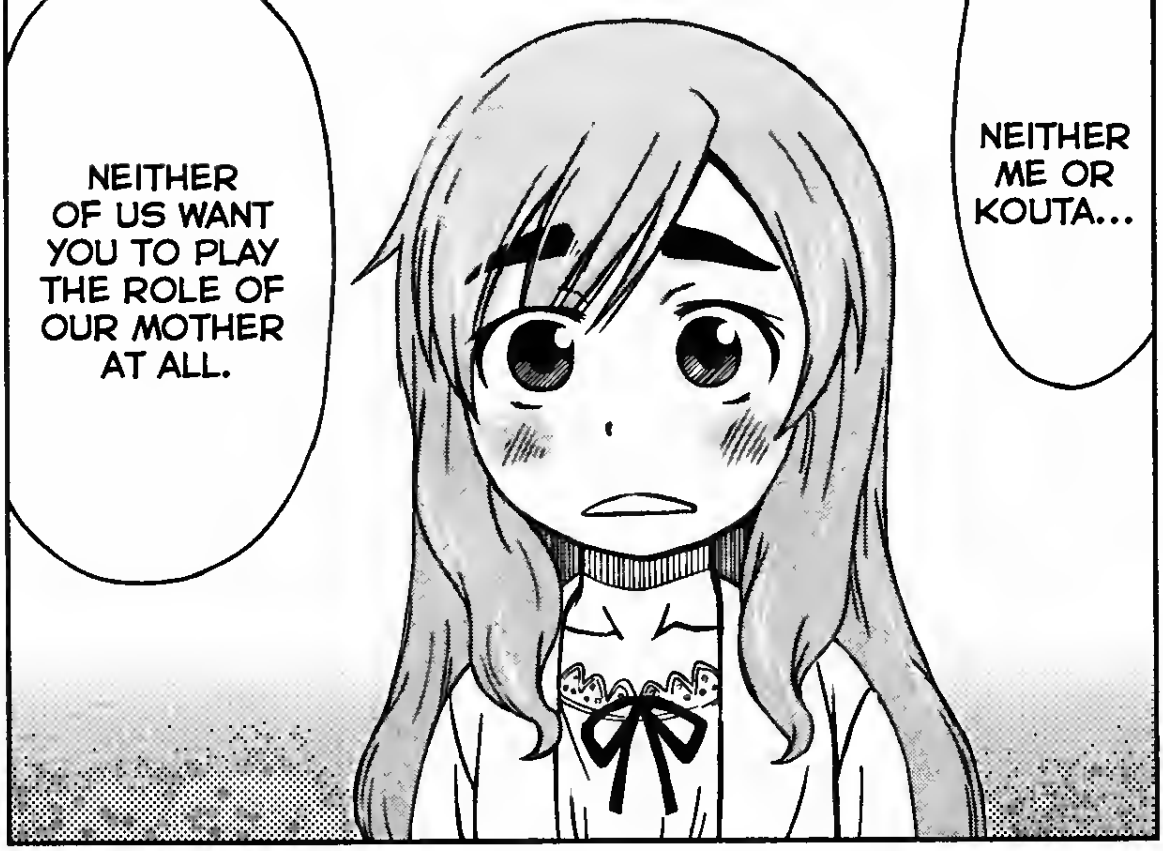

.....
IT'S DELI-CIOUS.

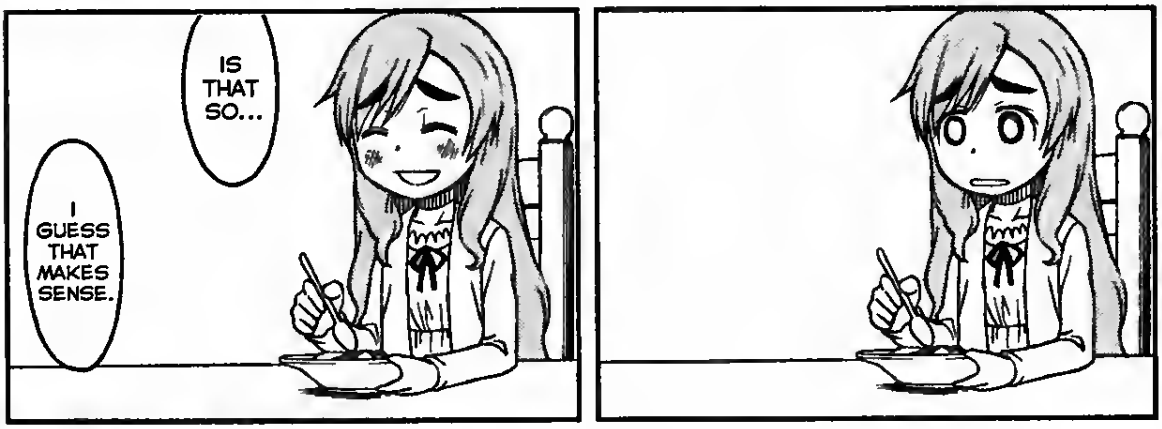

THE FLAVOR OF KOUTA'S CURRY.
HOW IS IT?

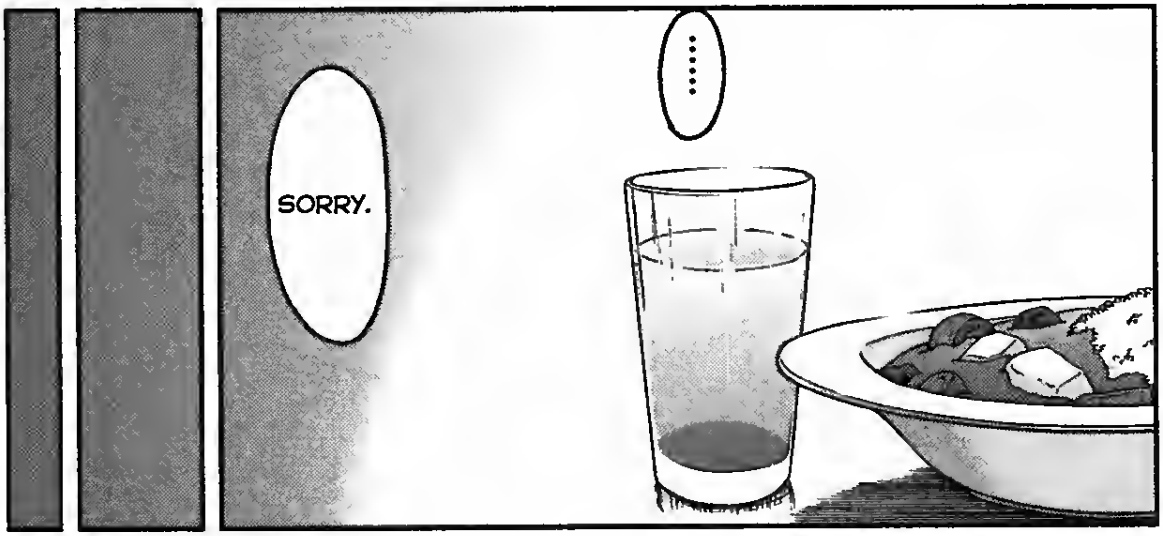
AHH HHH-
NO...

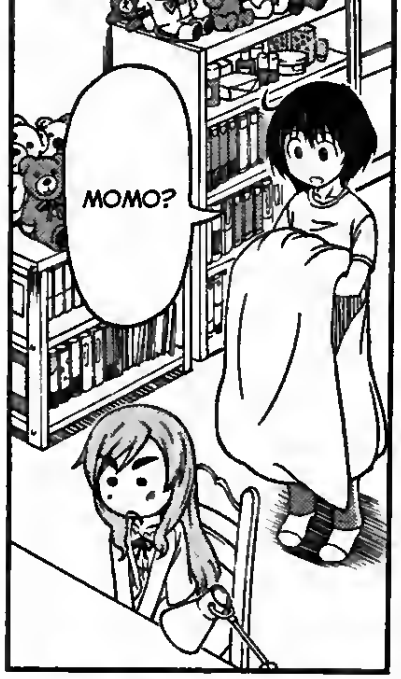
EVEN THOUGH I'M THE MOM, IT LOOKS LIKE I'M THE CHILD HERE. HOW EMBAR-RASSING.
AS FOR ME,


.....
KOU, HIMARI, BOTH OF YOU ARE MATURE.

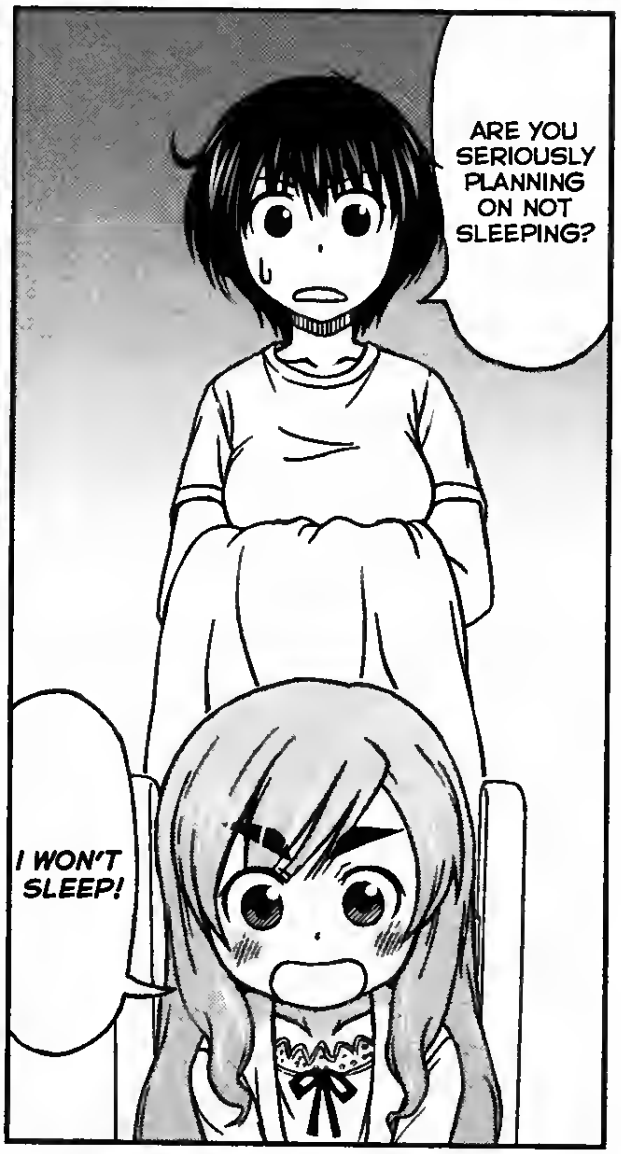

NEITHER OF US WANT YOU TO PLAY THE ROLE OF OUR MOTHER AT ALL.
NEITHER ME OR KOUTA...


I GUESS THAT MAKES SENSE.
IS THAT SO...


SORRY.
.....

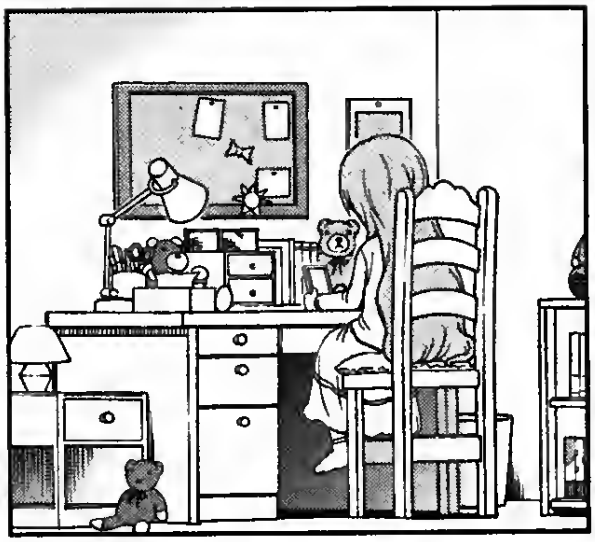

MOMO?

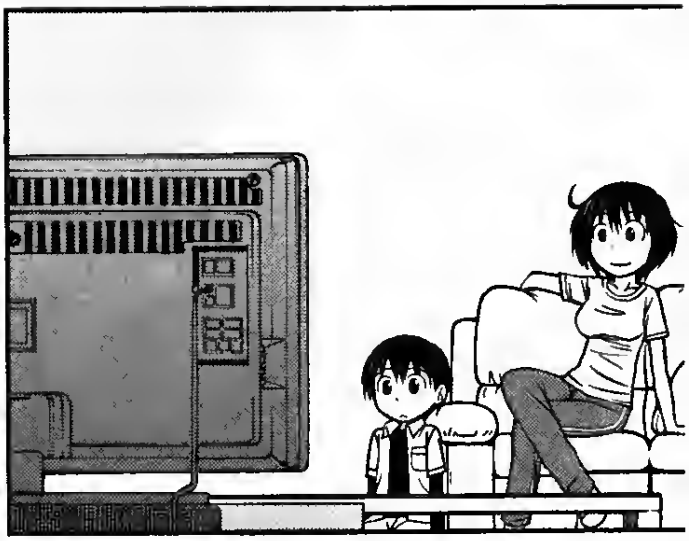
MOMO. FOR TODAY, PLEASE USE THIS BLANKET TO SLEEP.

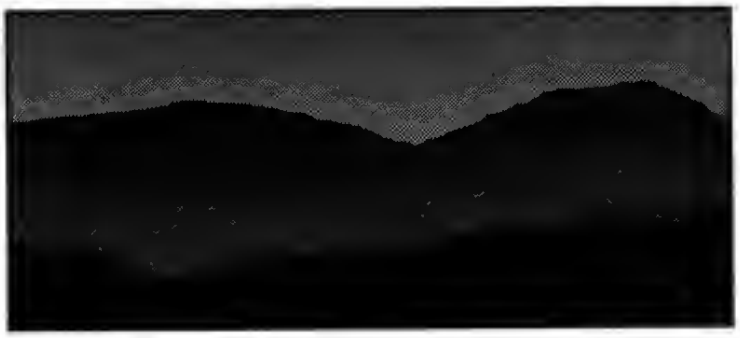

ARE YOU SERIOUSLY PLANNING ON NOT SLEEPING?
I WON'T SLEEP!

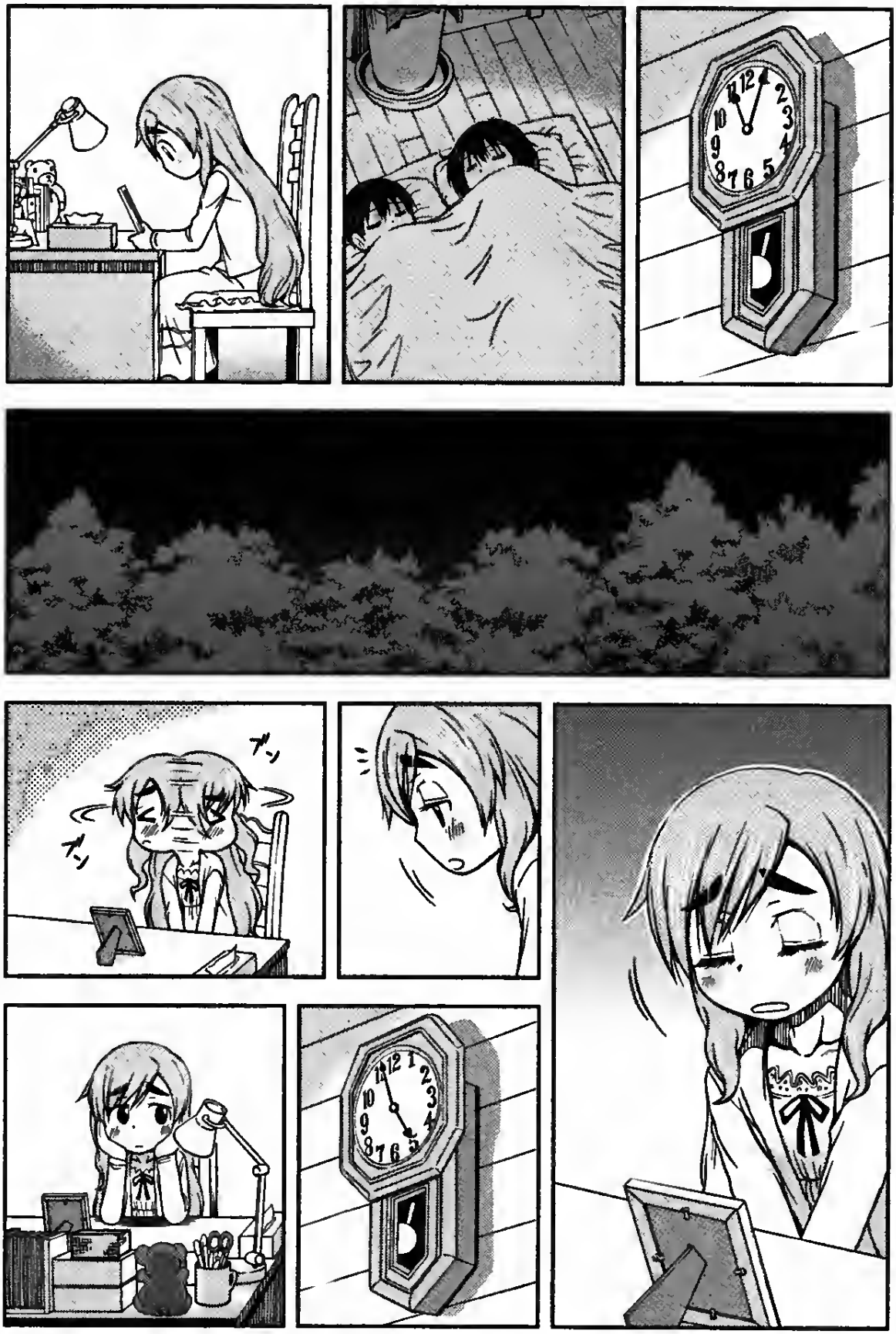
IF YOU GET SLEEPY, PLEASE USE IT.

OKAY THEN, I'LL JUST LEAVE THE BLANKET RIGHT HERE.





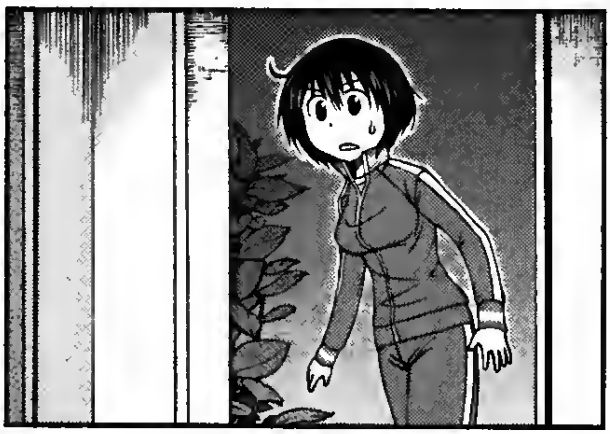



グッ
イン

5:42
SAT

SFX: CRASH

WHAT WAS THAT?
.....



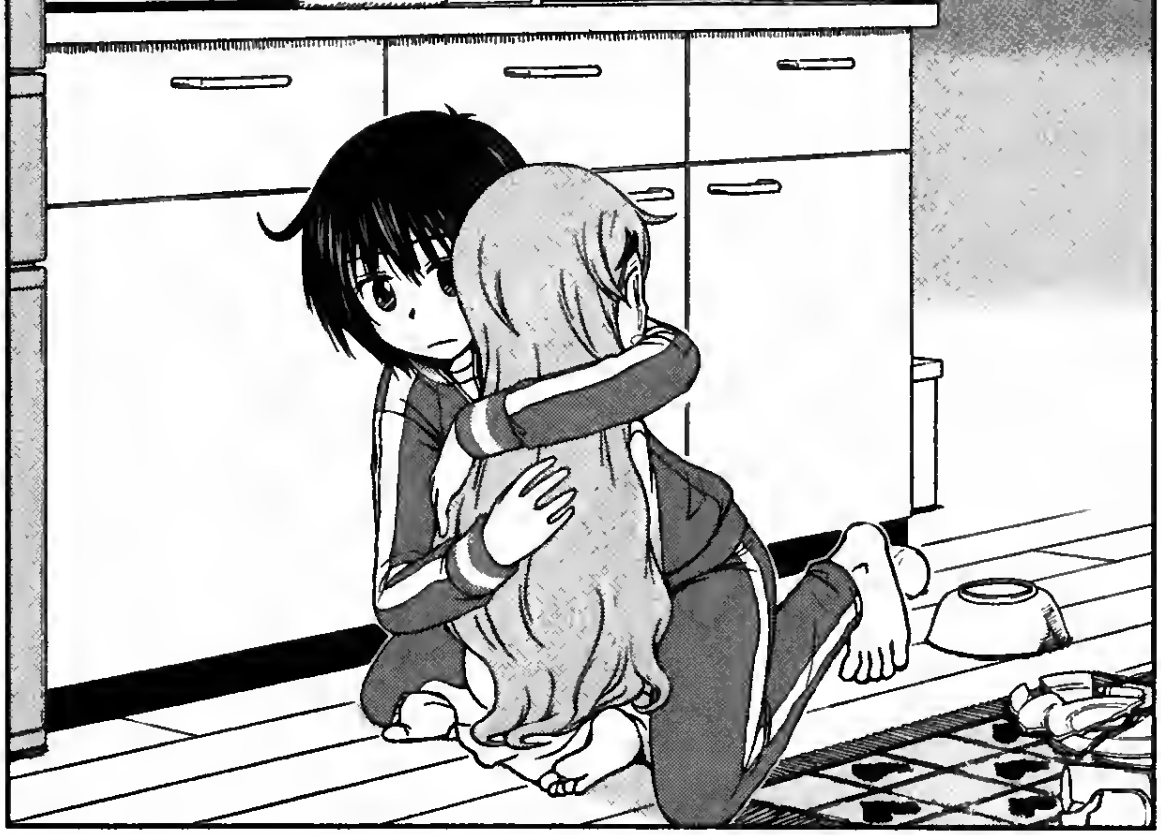
MOMO...
.....
I WAS THINKING I'D MAKE IT FOR YOU... BREAKFAST.
WHAT IN THE HECK HAP-PENED HERE?
YOU DON'T NEED TO MAKE BREAKFAST.
NOW, PLEASE, GO TO SLEEP.
MOMO, YOU REALLY DIDN'T GO TO SLEEP YESTERDAY?
BREAK-FAST YOU SAY...

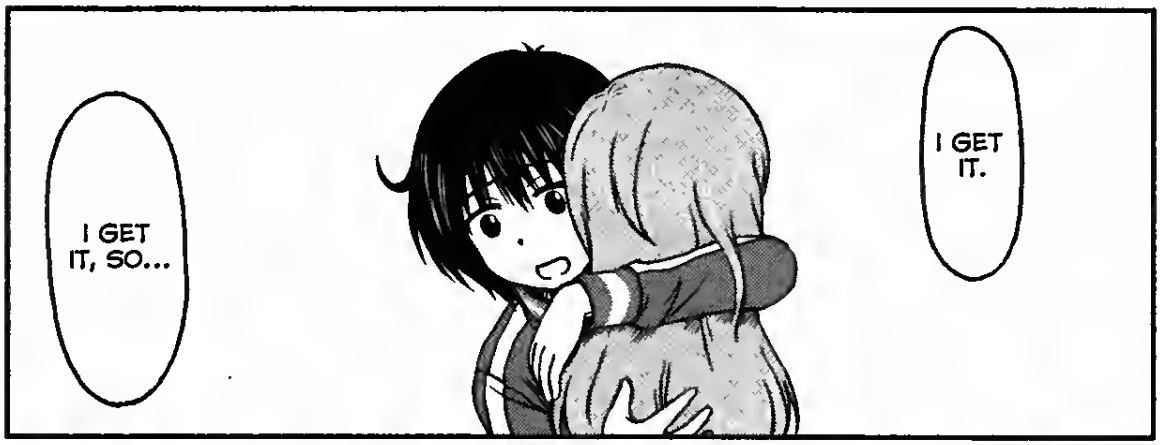
EH-
WAA AAA AAA AAA AAA AAA AAH!

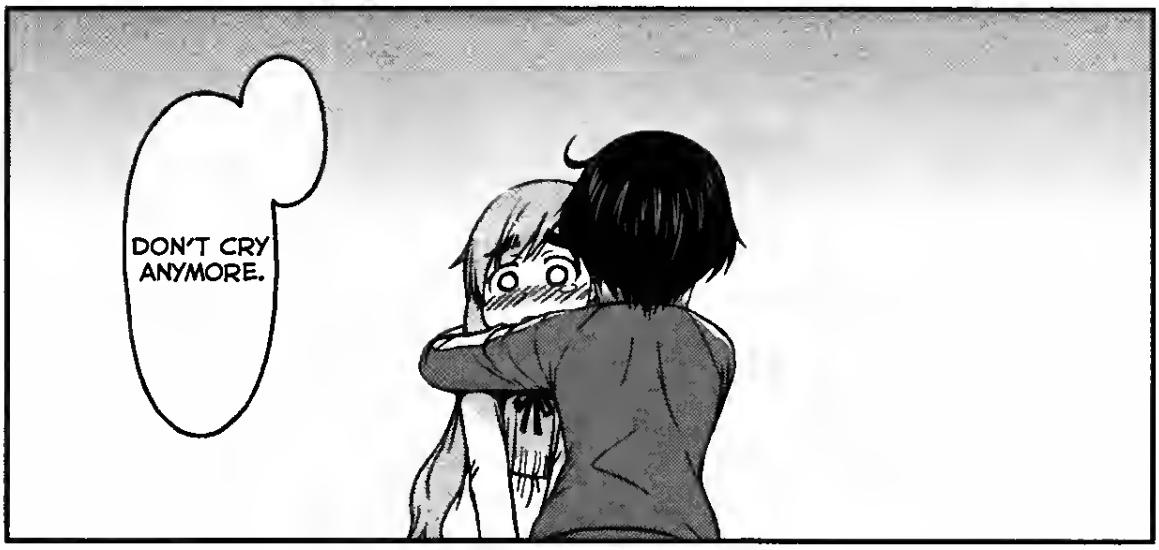
SHE'S REALLY CRYING?
I'm sorry...
うぅ
I'm sorry...
えぇ

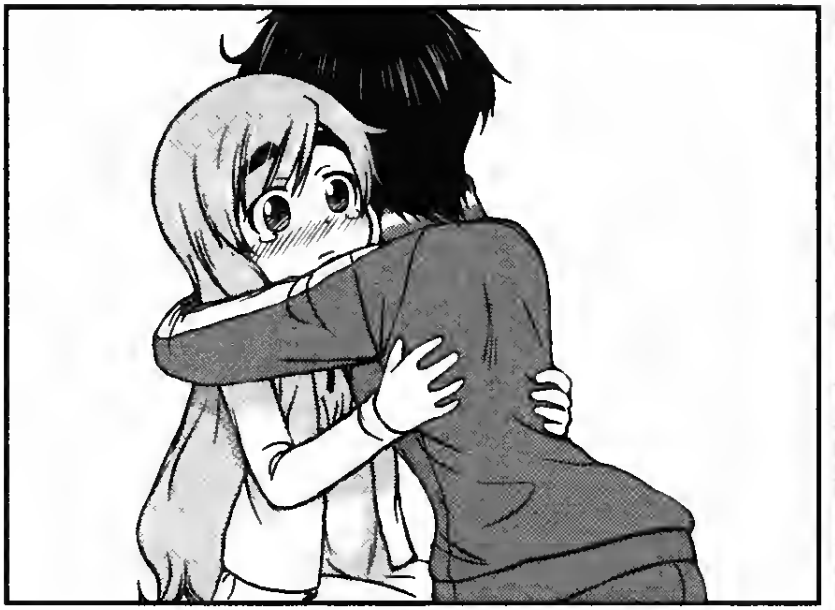
ビクッ
WHA?! NO WAY!

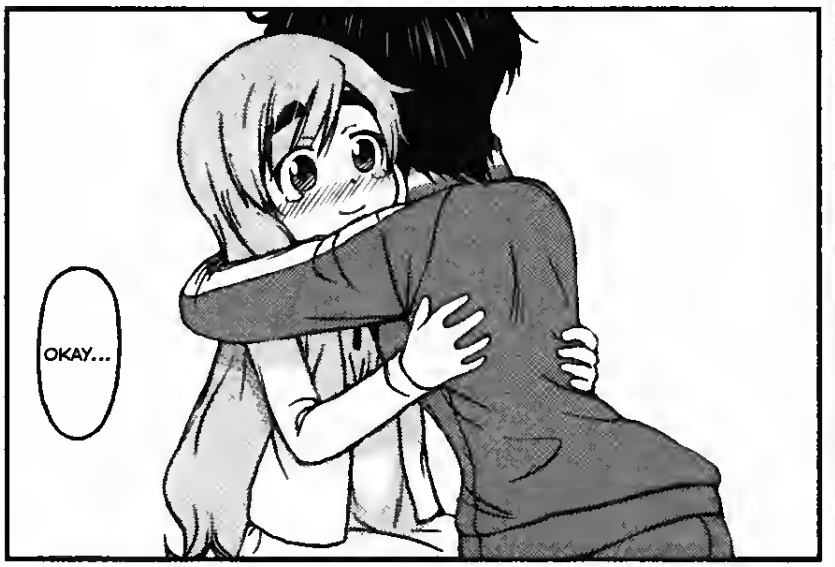
WHAT IS THIS? GOSH.
えー
I'M SORRY I'M SUCH A HOPELESS MOTHER...
NO, I'M NOT ANGRY OR ANYTHING, SO-
I'M SORRY I BROKE THE DISHES...
SHIN... I'M SORRY...
うっ
うっ
DID SHE JUST APOLOGIZE TO DAD?
えー

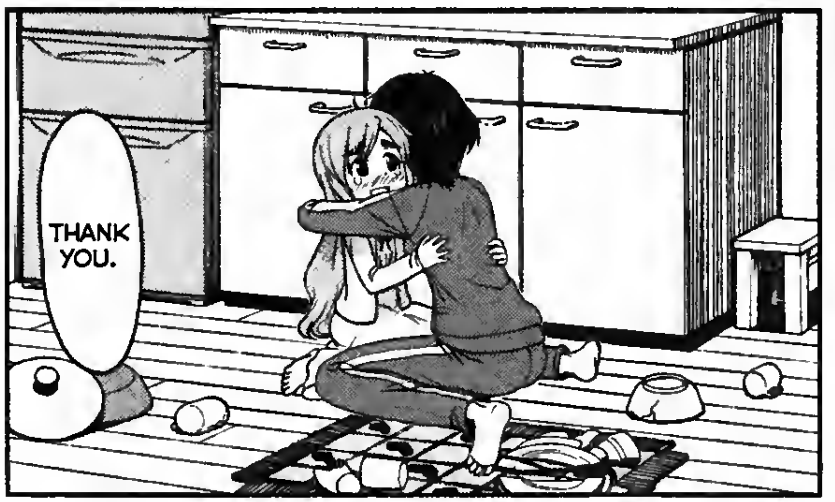


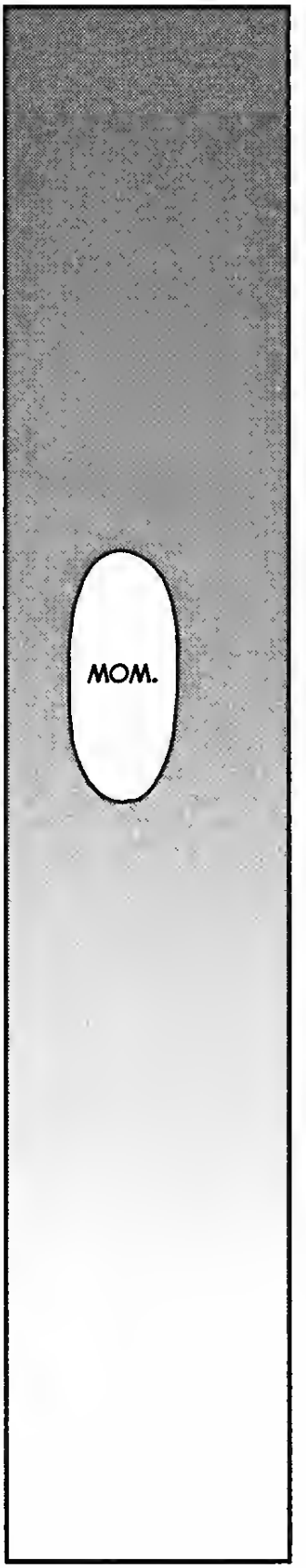

I GET IT, SO...
I GET IT.


DON'T CRY ANYMORE.




OKAY...


THANK YOU.


MOM.

HIMARI...
YOU SMELL LIKE SHIN.
EH?
YOU'RE KIDDING!
What the?! Dad's old guy smell?!

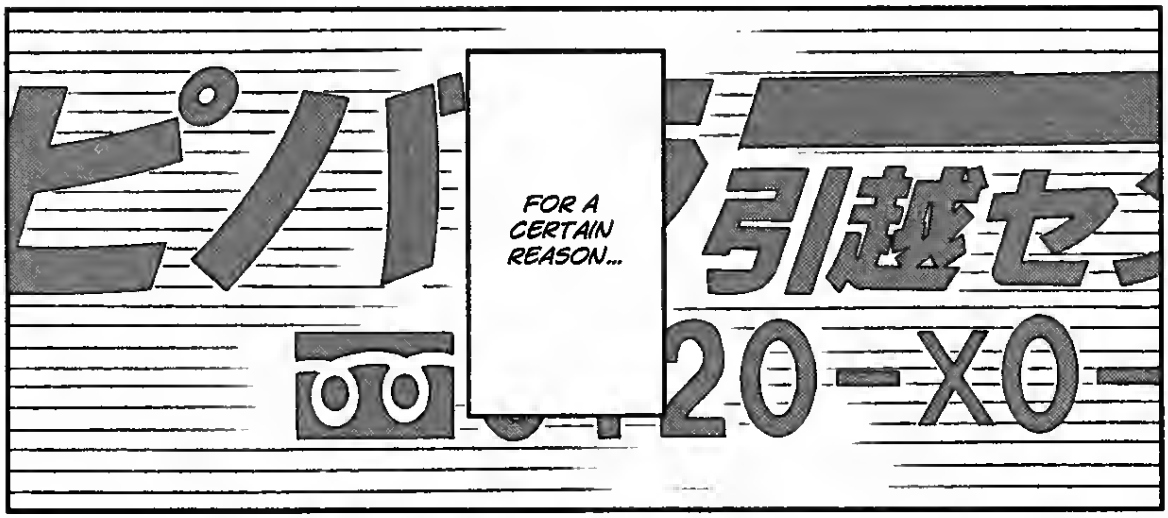
THIS PERSON WANTED TO LIVE SURROUNDED BY WHAT HER BELOVED LEFT BEHIND.
SHE WANTED TO LIVE TOGETHER WITH US.

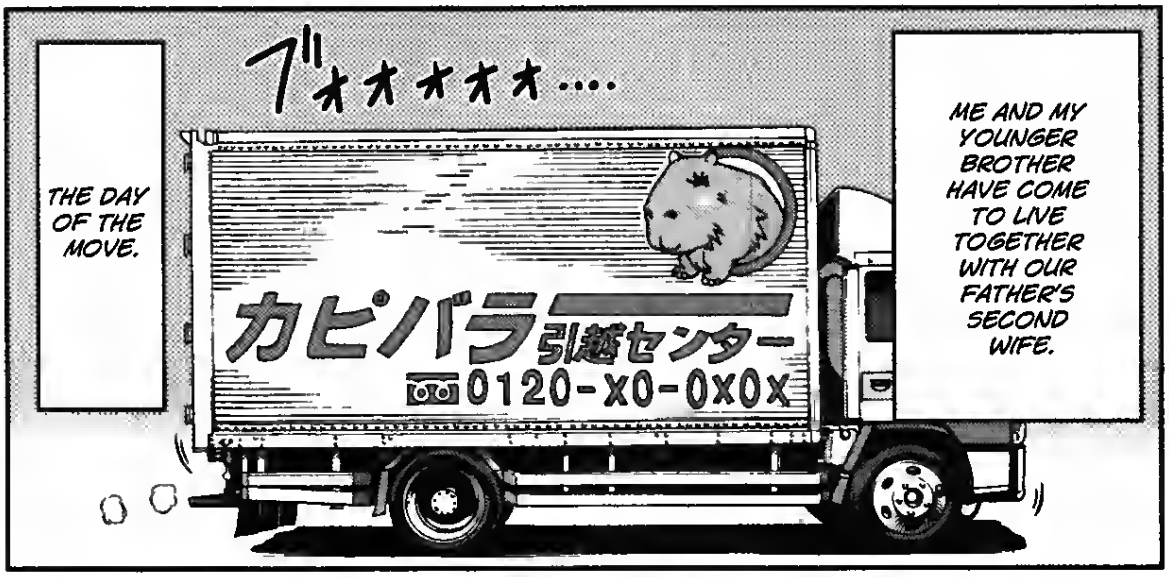
THE MOUNTAIN RETREAT MY FATHER LEFT BEHIND.

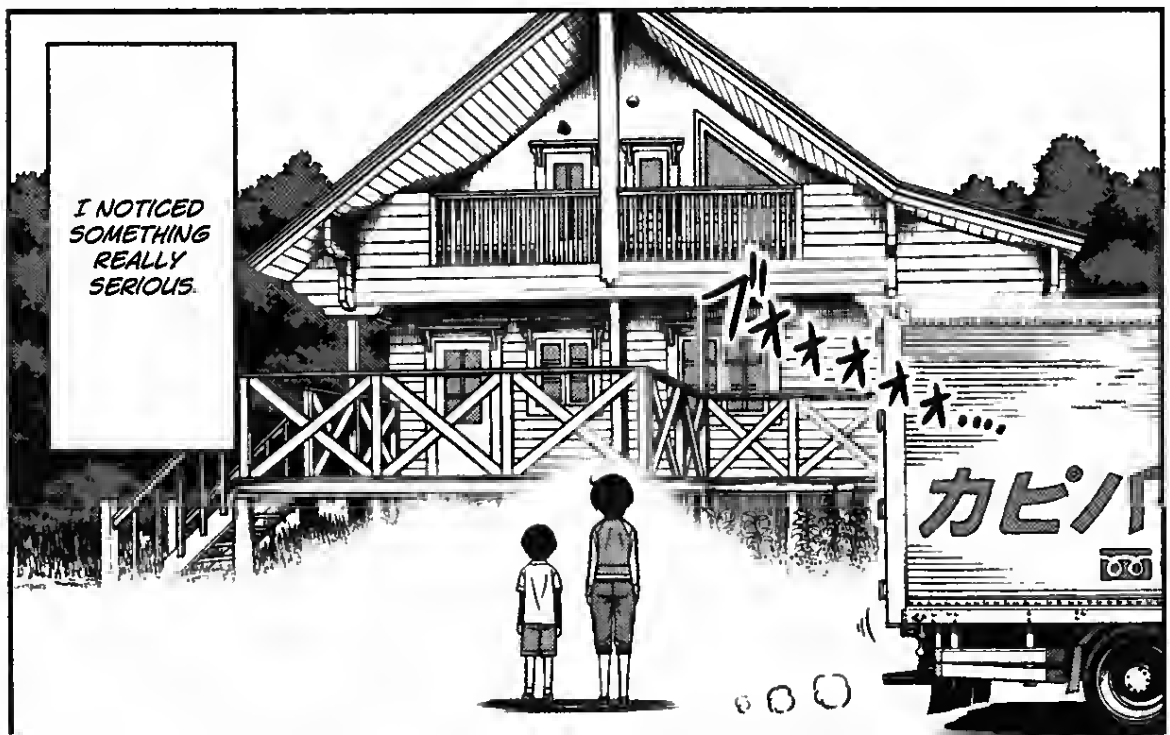
AND US, THE CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND BY MY FATHER'S DEATH

A "GRIEF STRICKEN WIFE", PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HER HUSBAND...
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HER THAT WELL...

Chapter 2 Antenna


FOR A CERTAIN REASON...


THE DAY OF THE MOVE.
ブォォォォォ....
カピバラ引越センター
0120-X0-0X0X
ME AND MY YOUNGER BROTHER HAVE COME TO LIVE TOGETHER WITH OUR FATHER'S SECOND WIFE.

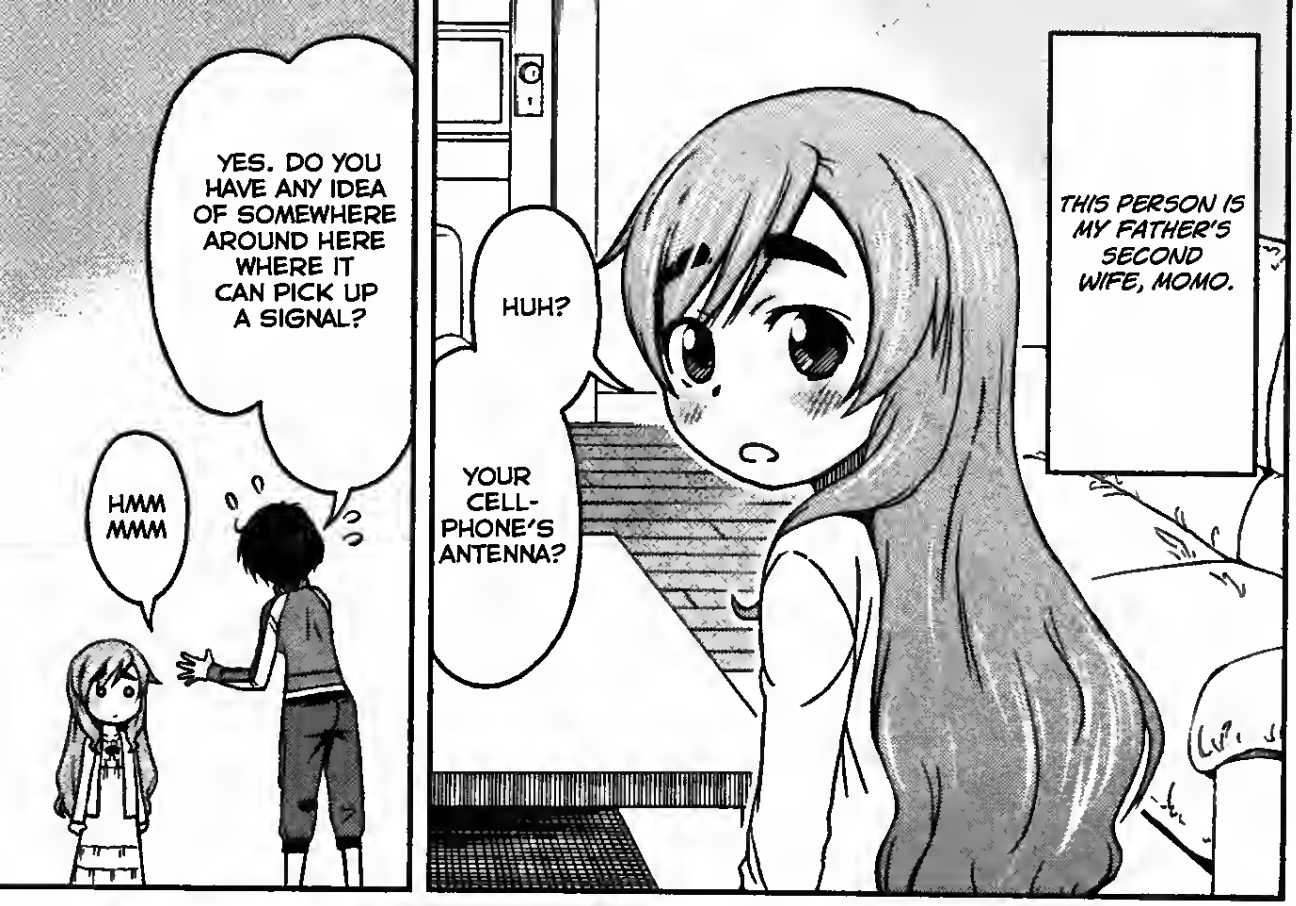

I NOTICED SOMETHING REALLY SERIOUS.
ブォォォォォ....
カピバ

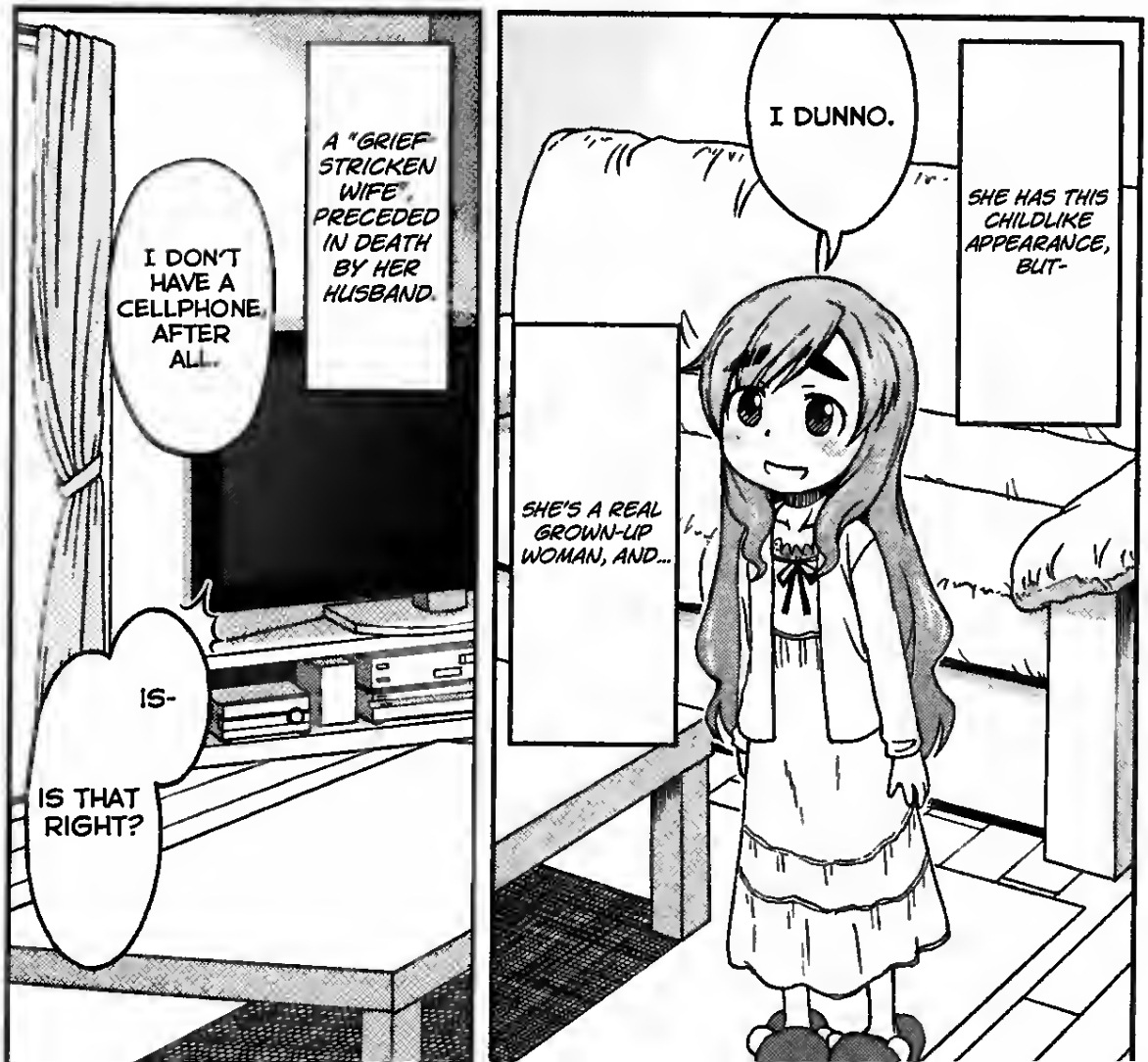
……
カチッ
Ah.

DON'T TELL ME OUR NEW ADDRESS IS SO DAMN FAR OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE THAT EVEN CELLPHONE SIGNALS CAN'T REACH US...
圏外
EH?!
WHA?!
IT CAN'T BE... IT CAN'T BE, IT CAN'T BE, IT CAN'T BE-

A CELLPHONE'S ANTENNA NOT GETTING A SIGNAL. ISN'T THAT IMPOSSIBLE NOWADAYS?
Eeeeeeek!
SERI-OUSLY?!

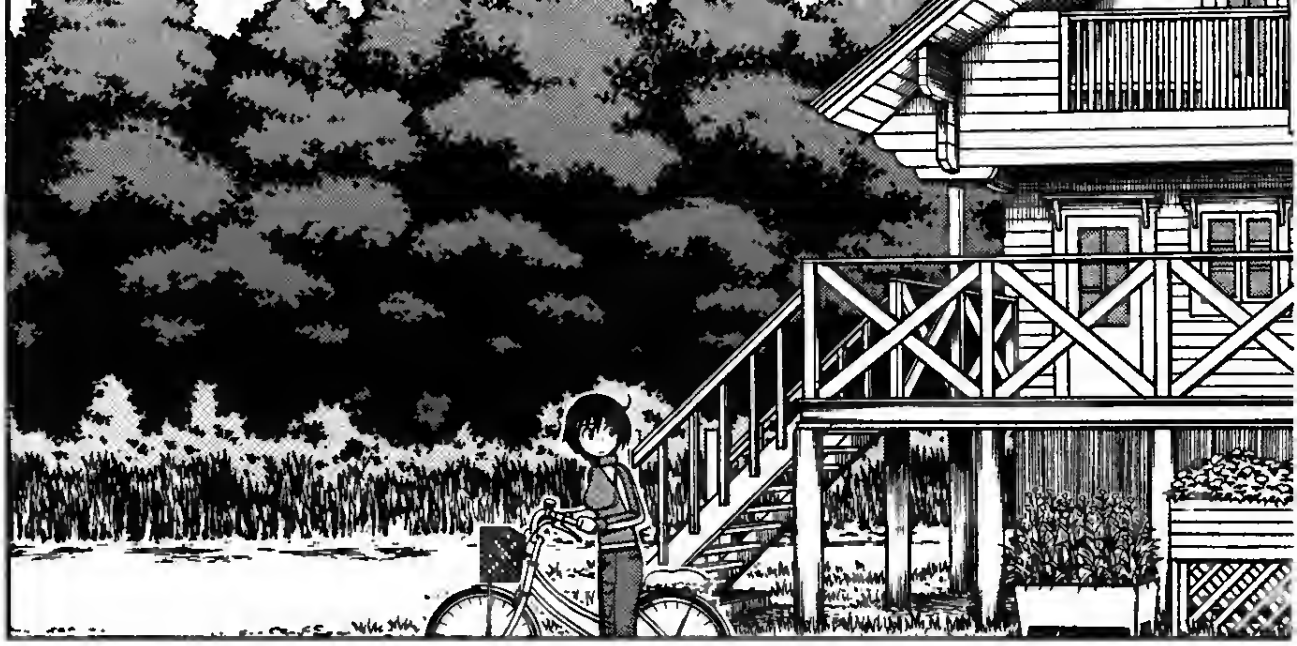
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
TO THINK I CAN'T USE MY CELLPHONE. THIS IS A DESPERATE PREDICAMENT.

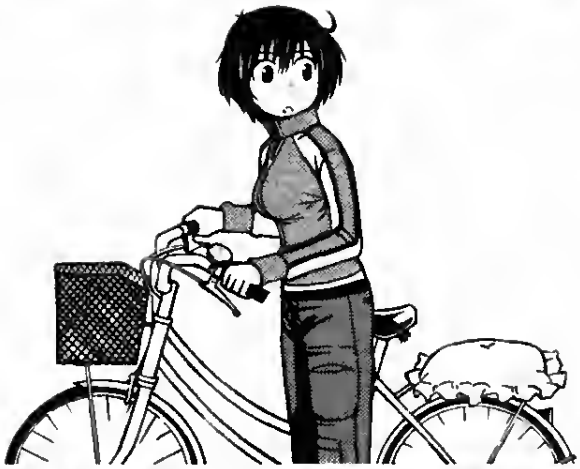

THIS PERSON IS MY FATHER'S SECOND WIFE, MOMO.
HUH?
YOUR CELL-PHONE'S ANTENNA?
YES. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE WHERE IT CAN PICK UP A SIGNAL?
HMM MMM


SHE HAS THIS CHILDLIKE APPEARANCE, BUT-
I DUNNO.
SHE'S A REAL GROWN-UP WOMAN, AND...
A "GRIEF-STRICKEN WIFE", PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HER HUSBAND.
I DON'T HAVE A CELLPHONE AFTER ALL.
IS-
IS THAT RIGHT?

NOT HAVING A CELLPHONE ISN'T ANY TROUBLE?
SO I CANCEL-LED MY PLAN.
I HAD ONE TOO, UNTIL I MOVED HERE.
THIS AREA IS COMPLETELY OUT OF RANGE.
I SEE
.....
I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHY I NEVER HAD ANY TROUBLE.
SHIN WAS ALWAYS BY MY SIDE.
EH?!
WHERE'S THAT?!
AH!
I DO REMEMBER HEARING THAT YOU CAN GET A SIGNAL IN THE CABBAGE FIELD AT NOGUCHI'S PLACE.

.....ERR
YOU GO 300 METERS DOWN THE ROAD OUT FRONT, THEN THERE'S A CROSSROADS WHERE YOU TURN RIGHT,
THEN AFTER A WHILE YOU GET TO THE LARGE SIGN BOARD...
UMMMM MMM...
IS THAT SO?
EVEN IF YOU SAY STUFF LIKE THAT I WON'T GET IT AT ALL.
I JUST MOVED HERE TODAY, SO,
OKAY, I'LL GET READY.
WAIT A MOMENT.
THIS IS A HUGE PROBLEM FOR ME!
YES, PLEASE!
THEN,
WE'LL GO TOGETH-ER?

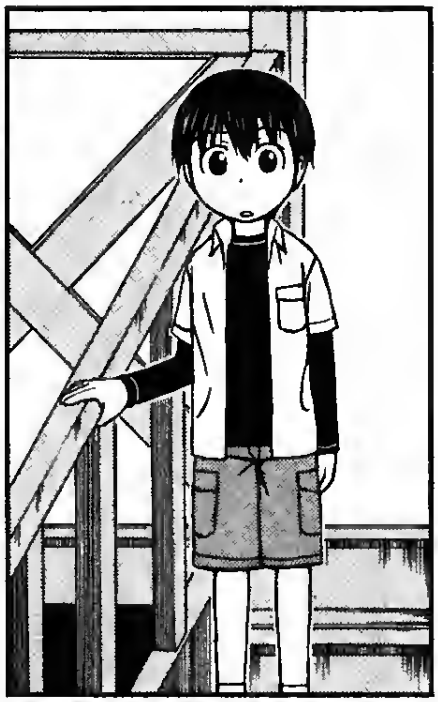




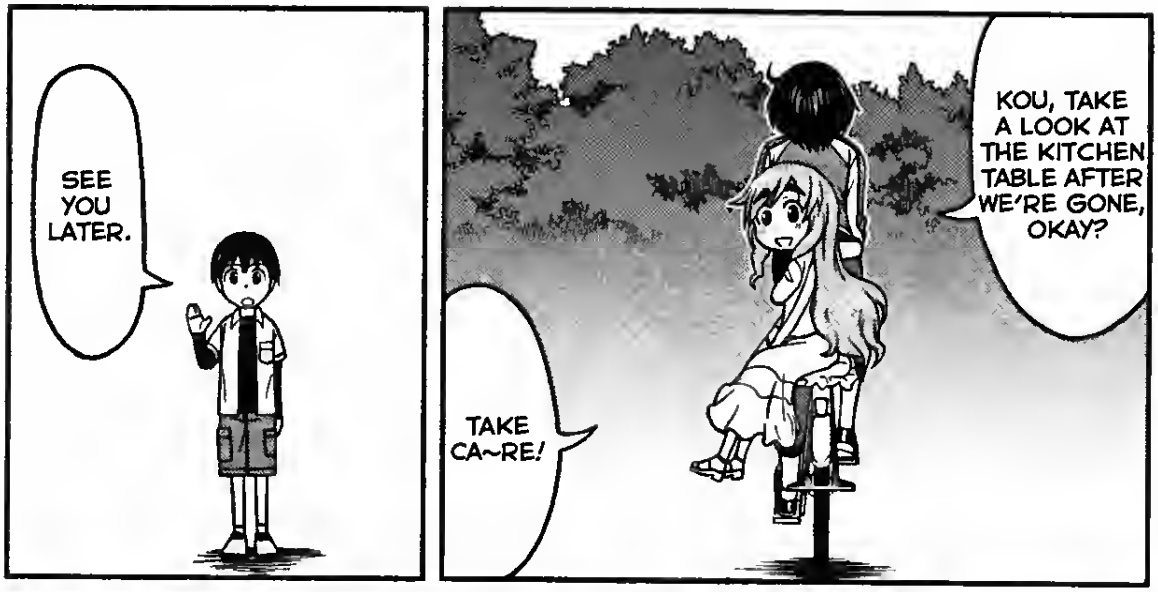
Sorry to keep you waiting~

KOUTA, YOU TAKE CARE OF THE HOUSE.

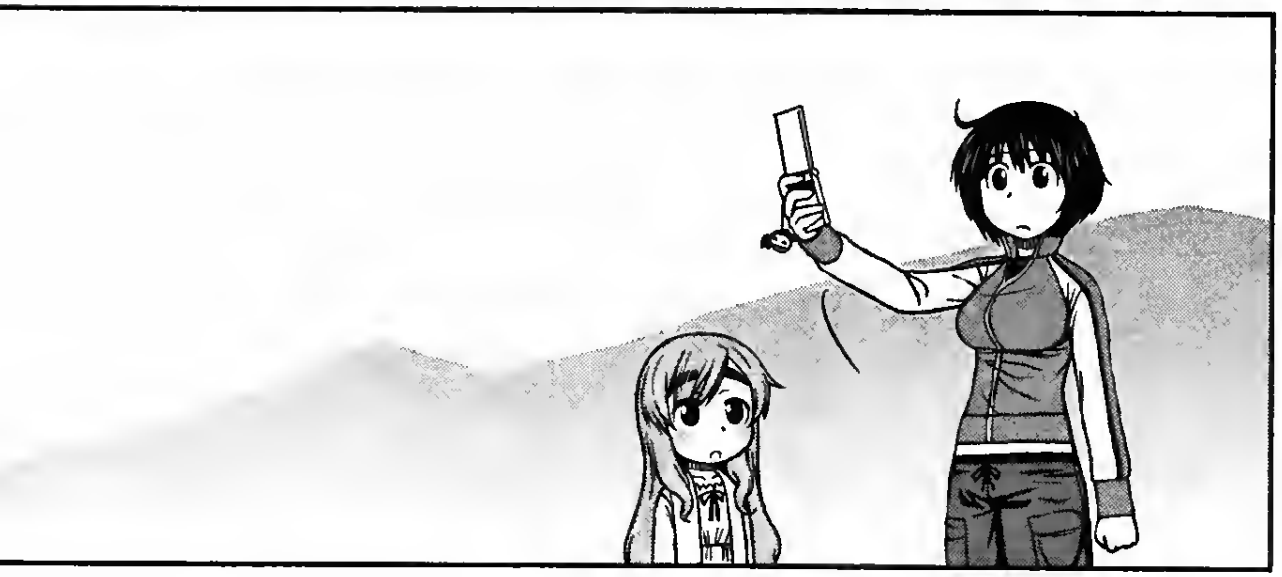
WHERE'RE YOU GOING, SIS?

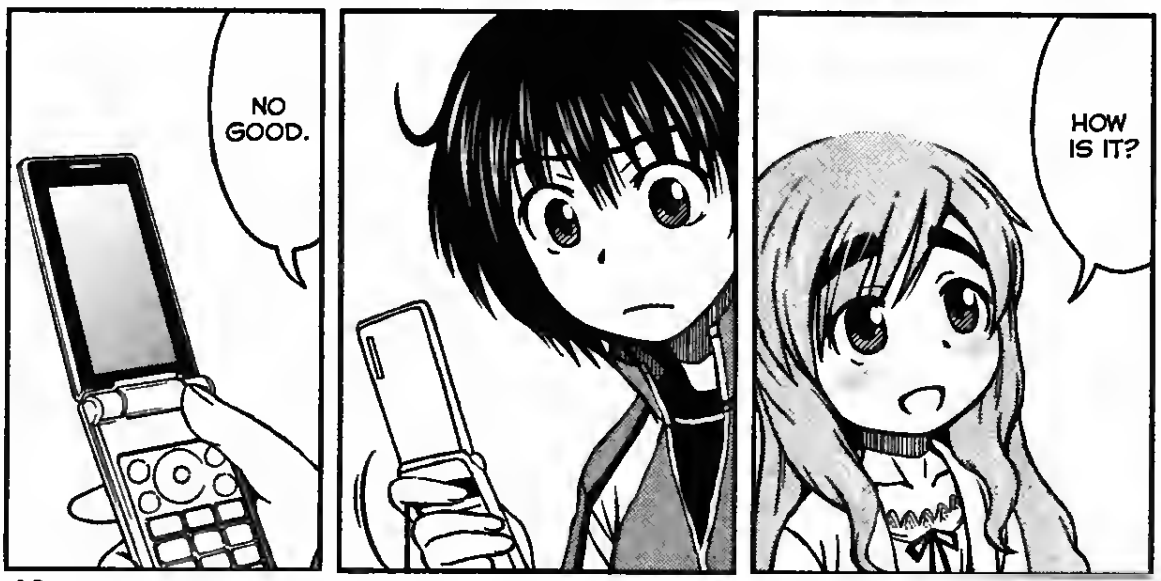


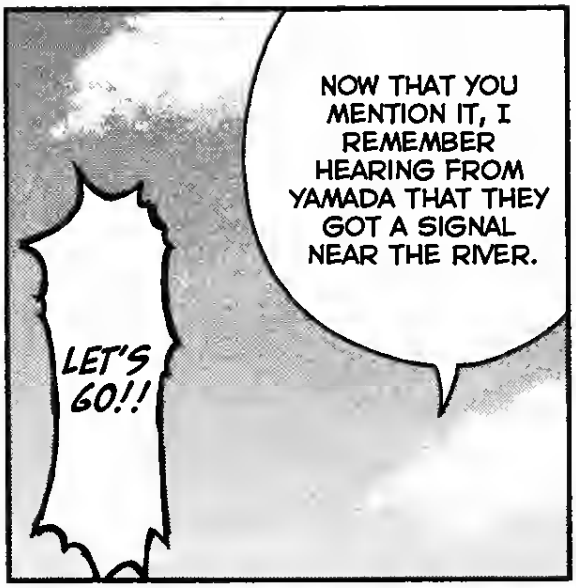
BECAUSE WE HAVE A VERY IMPOR-TANT ERRAND TO RUN.

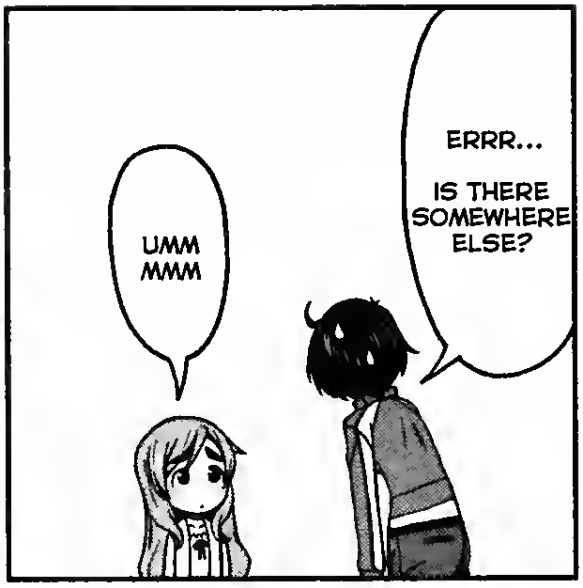

SEE YOU LATER.
KOU, TAKE A LOOK AT THE KITCHEN TABLE AFTER WE'RE GONE, OKAY?
TAKE CA~RE!

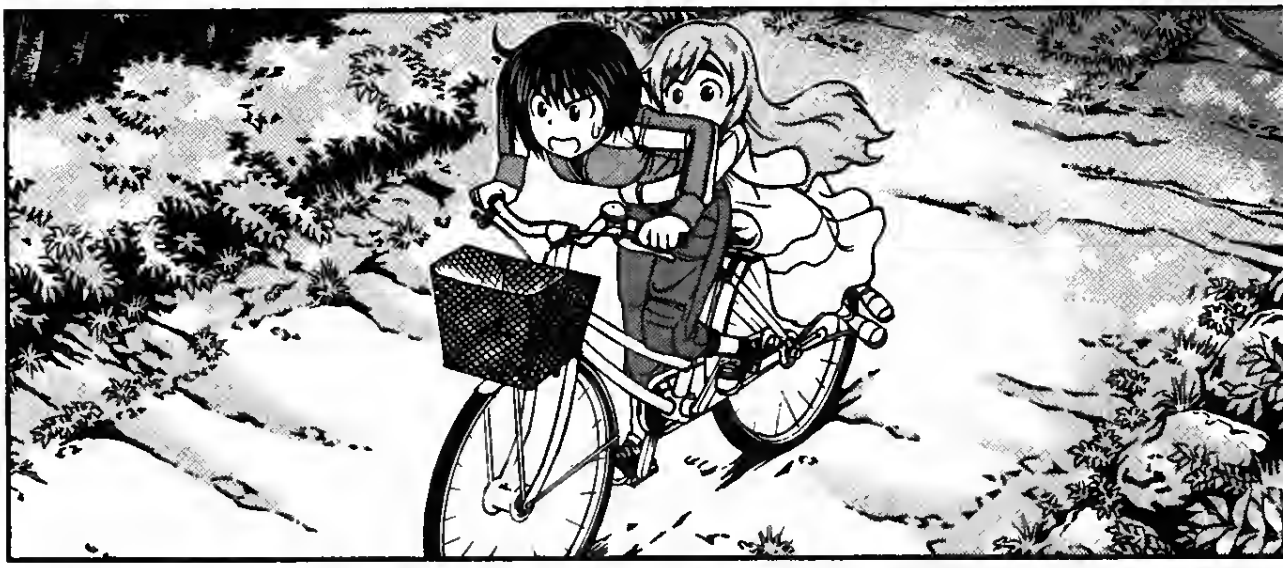
WHAT'S WITH THAT BAG?
WH~AT?
UM...
MOMO,
I SEE.
RIGHT NOW, THAT'S A SECRET.
UFUFU

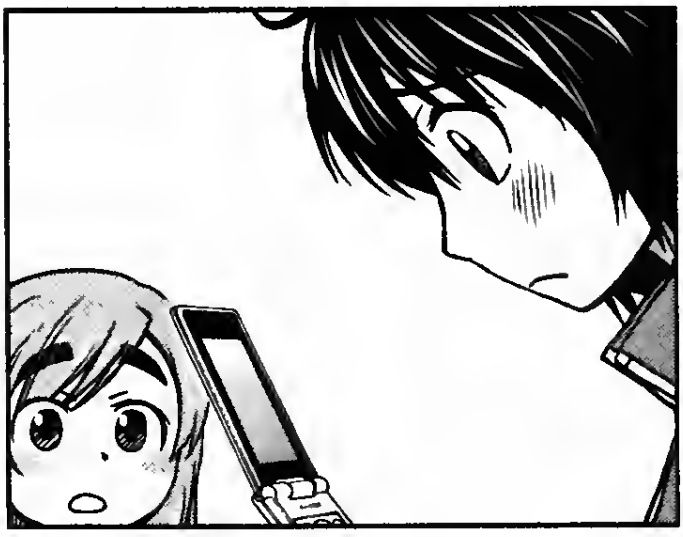


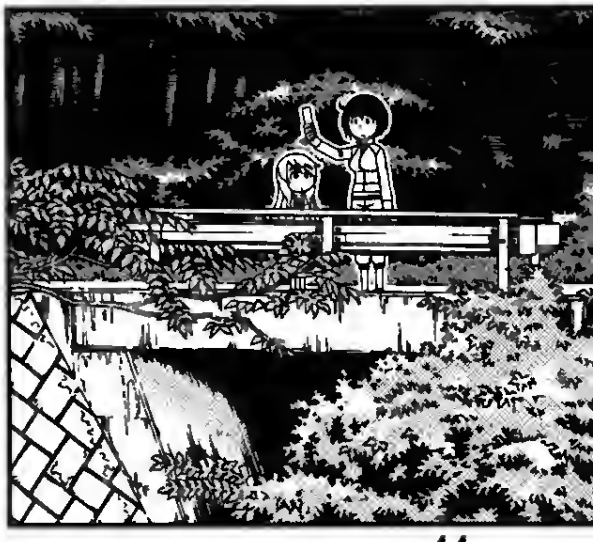

NO GOOD.
HOW IS IT?

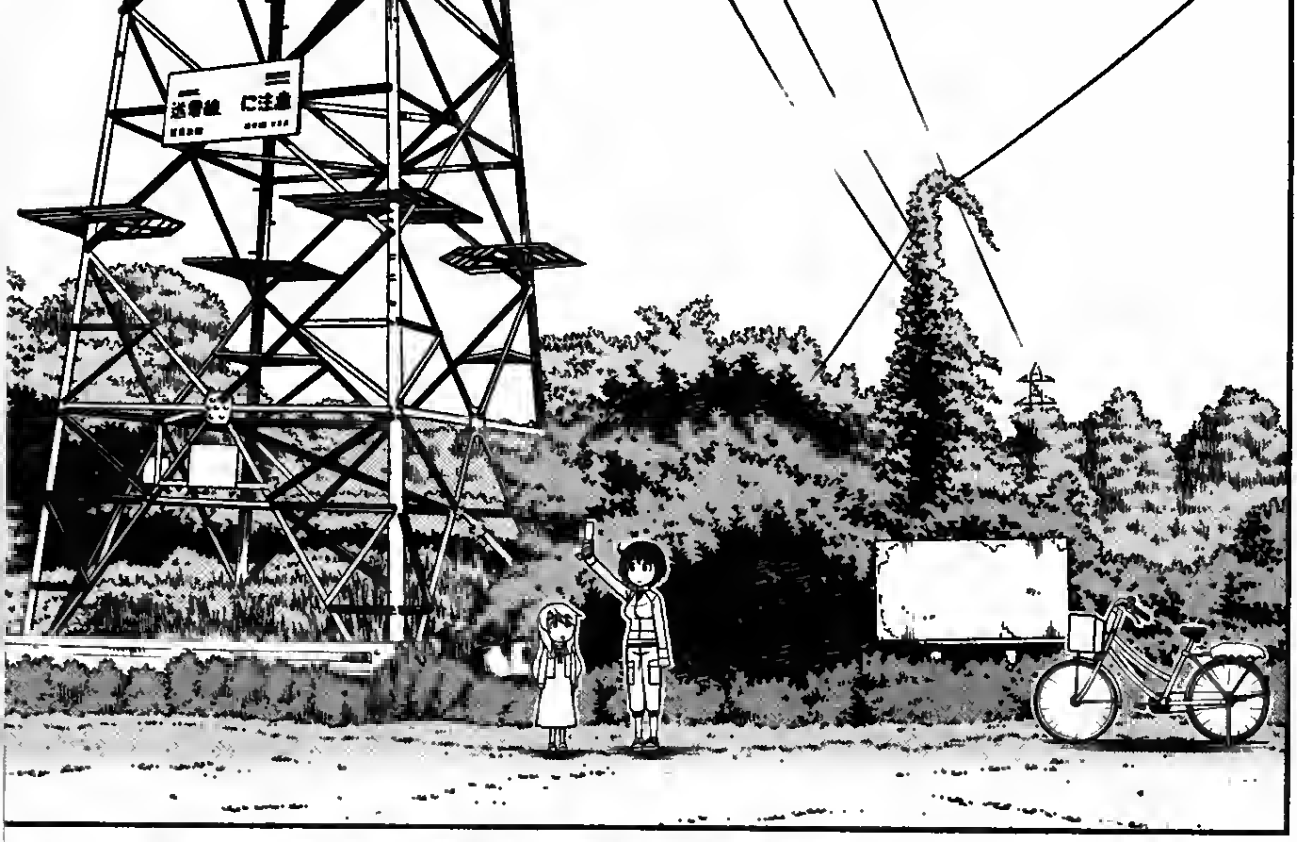

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I REMEMBER HEARING FROM YAMADA THAT THEY GOT A SIGNAL NEAR THE RIVER.
LET'S GO!!

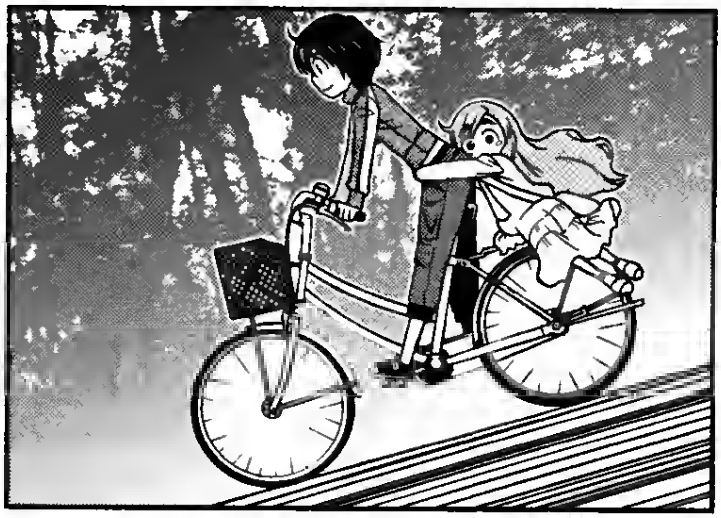

ERRR... IS THERE SOMEWHERE ELSE?
UMM MMM

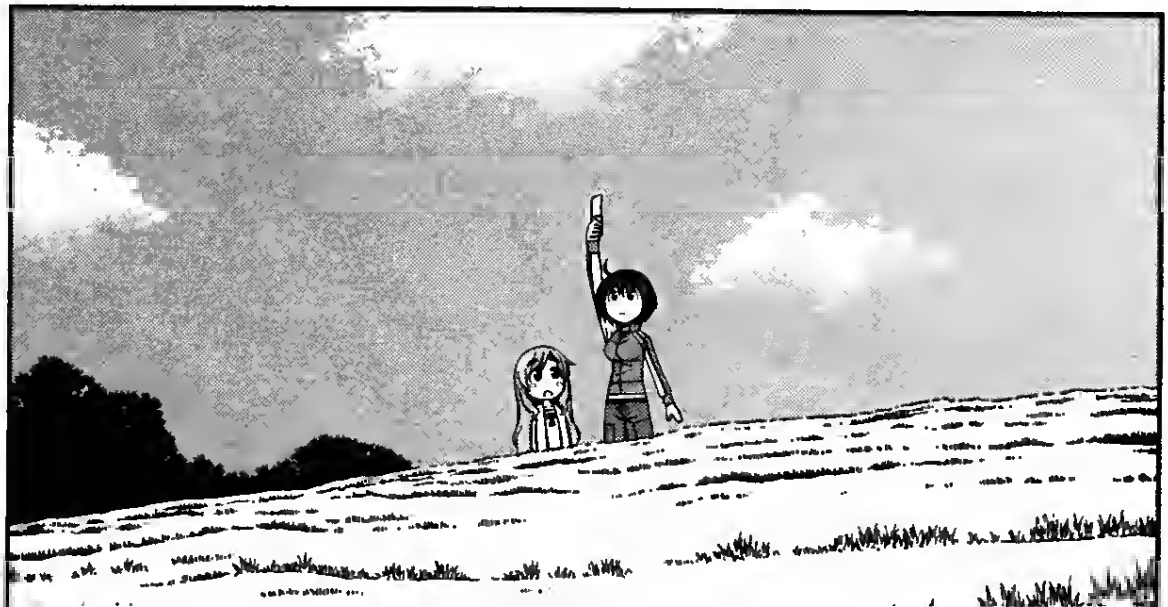




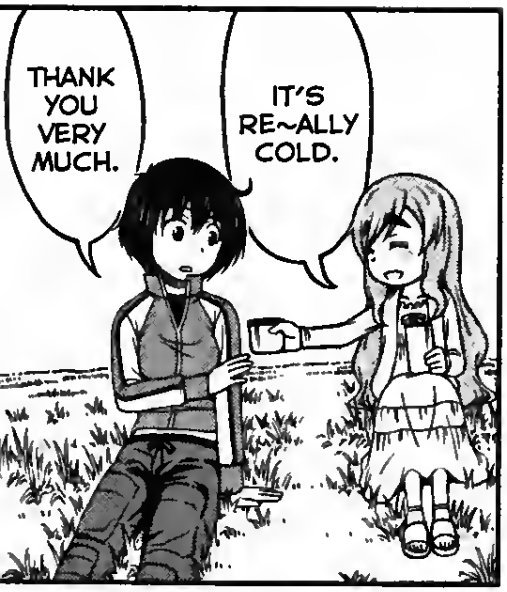




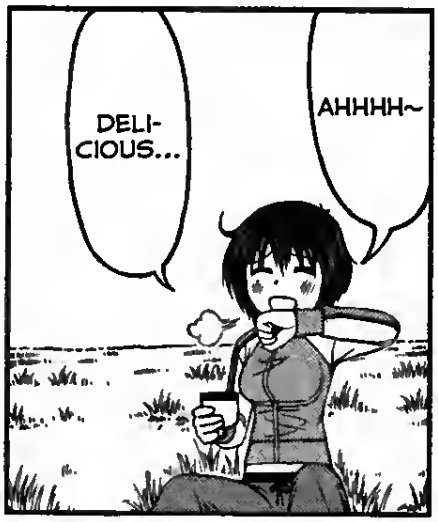




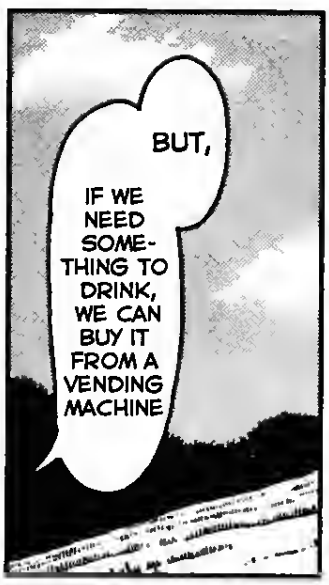
NO GOOD HERE, TOO...
WHAT AM I TO DO?
EH?
LET'S RELAX FOR A BIT.


THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
IT'S RE~ALLY COLD.

HERE YOU GO, BARLEY TEA.

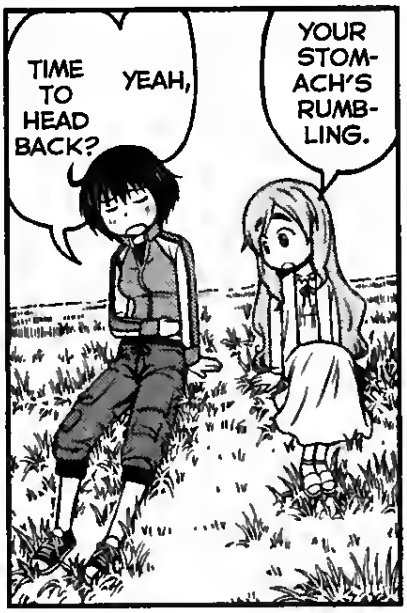

DELI-CIOUS...
AHHHH~

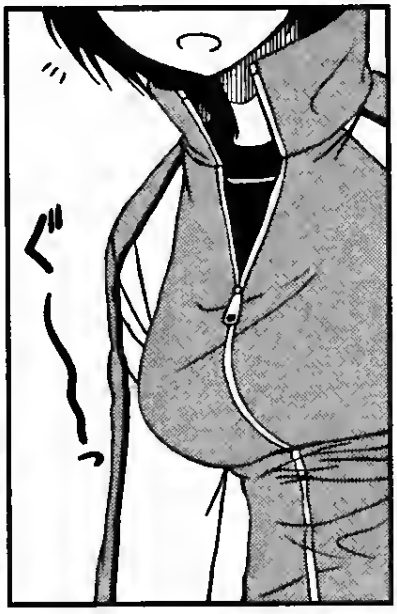
ゴク
ゴク

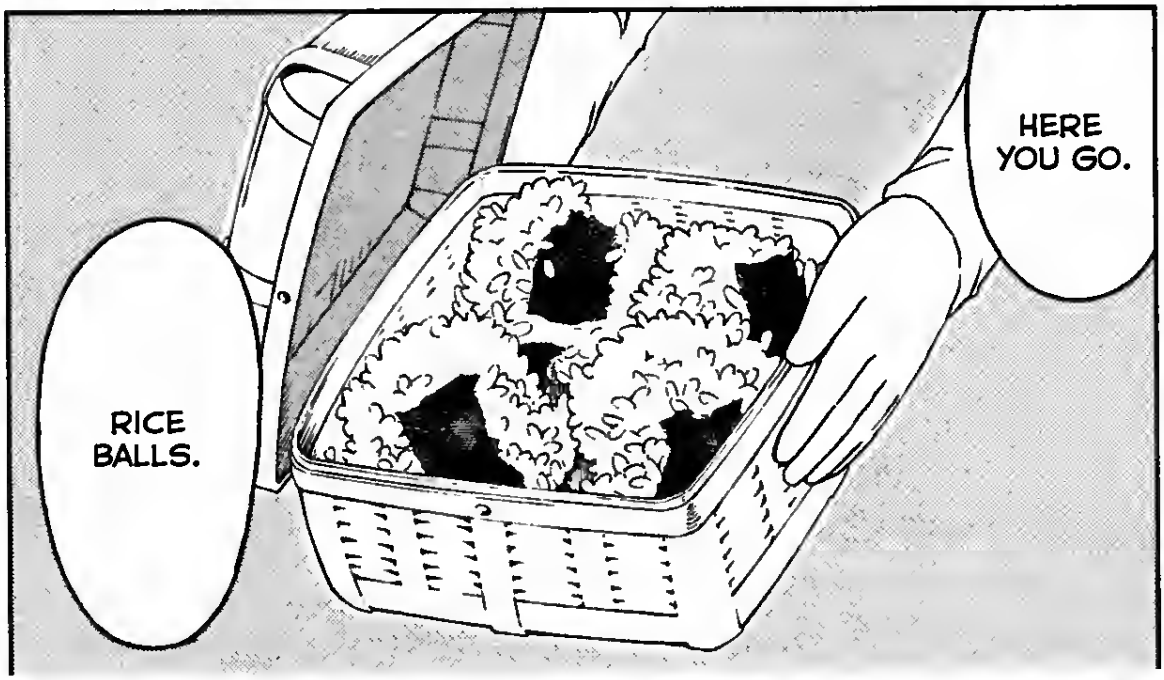

BUT,
IF WE NEED SOME-THING TO DRINK, WE CAN BUY IT FROM A VENDING MACHINE

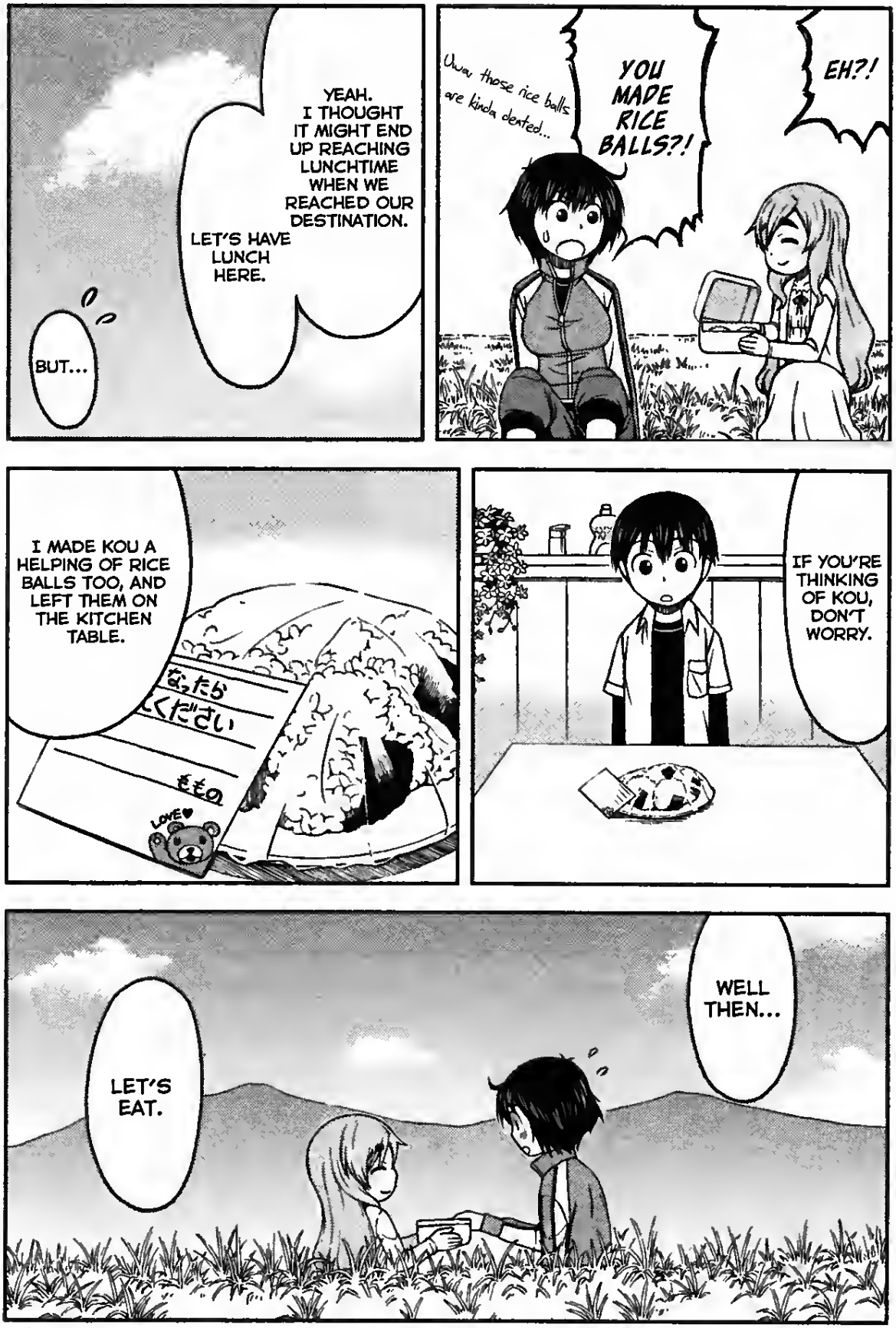
YEAH. I FIGURED, "WE'LL PROB-ABLY GET THIRSTY."
DID YOU BRING THAT BARLEY TEA ON PURPOSE?

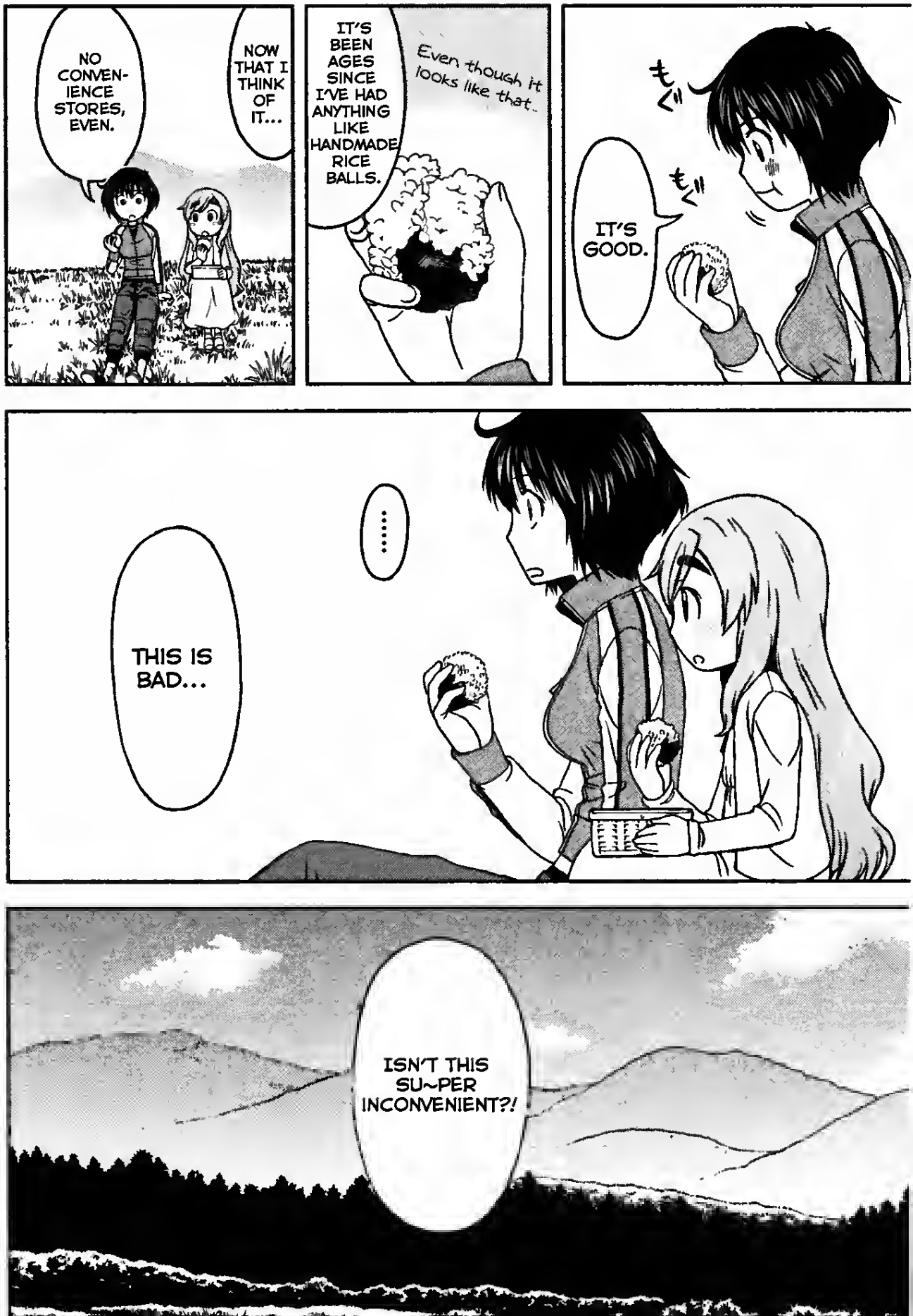
THERE AREN'T ANY VENDING MACHINES, EITHER...
AROUND HERE.

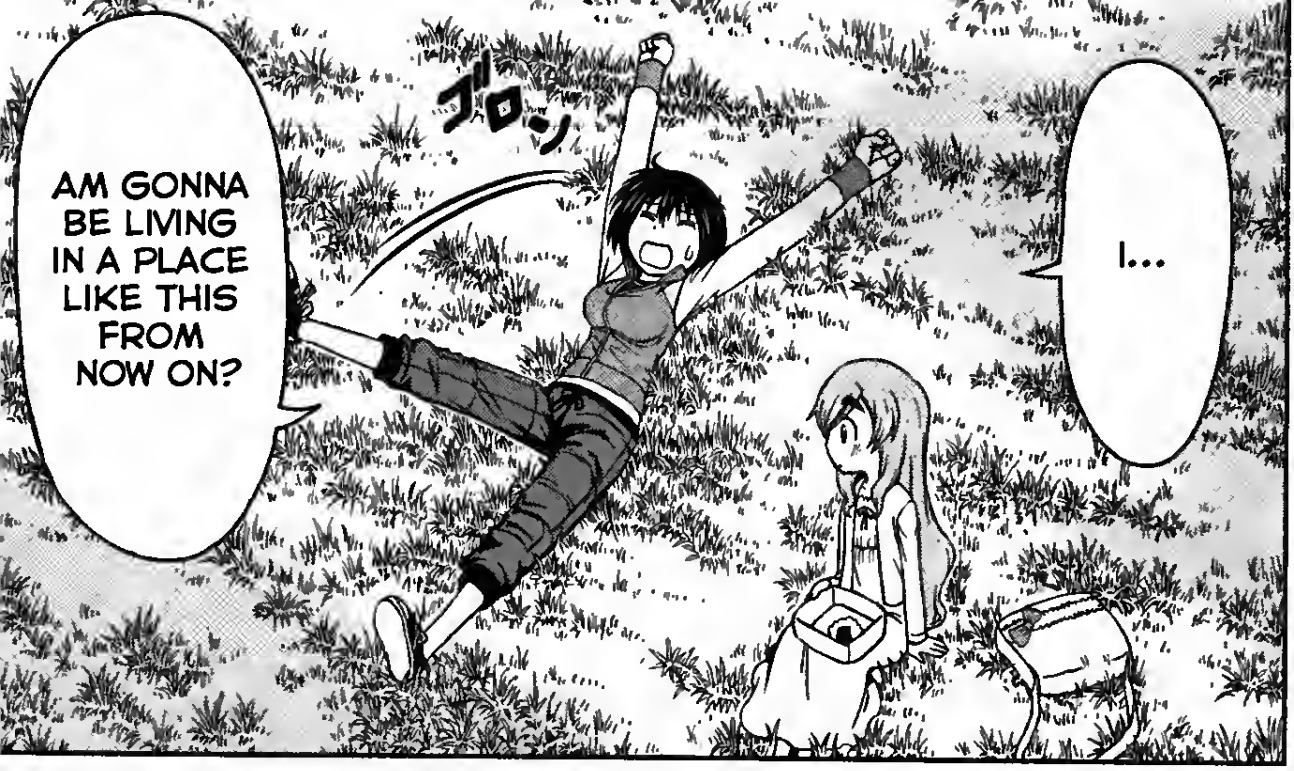

YOUR STOM-ACH'S RUMB-LING.
YEAH, TIME TO HEAD BACK?




HERE YOU GO.
RICE BALLS.


YEAH. I THOUGHT IT MIGHT END UP REACHING LUNCHTIME WHEN WE REACHED OUR DESTINATION.
LET'S HAVE LUNCH HERE.
BUT...
Uuu, those rice balls are kinda dented...
YOU MADE RICE BALLS?!
EH?!
I MADE KOU A HELPING OF RICE BALLS TOO, AND LEFT THEM ON THE KITCHEN TABLE.
IF YOU'RE THINKING OF KOU, DON'T WORRY.
WELL THEN...
LET'S EAT.

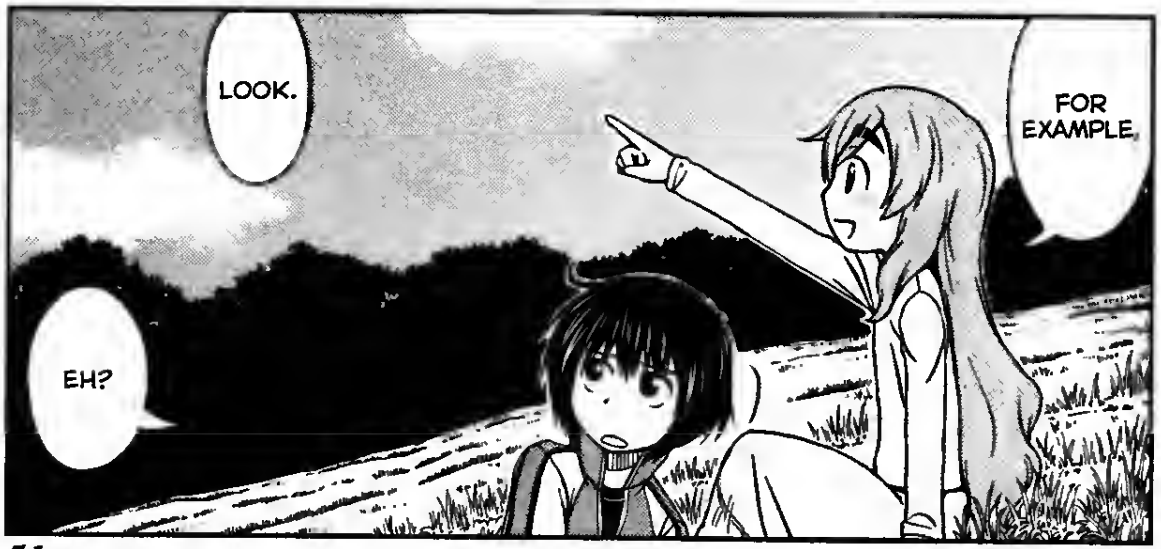

NOW THAT I THINK OF IT...
NO CONVEN-IENCE STORES, EVEN.
IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I'VE HAD ANYTHING LIKE HANDMADE RICE BALLS.
Even though it looks like that.
もぐ
もぐ
IT'S GOOD.
THIS IS BAD...
.....
ISN'T THIS SU~PER INCONVENIENT?!

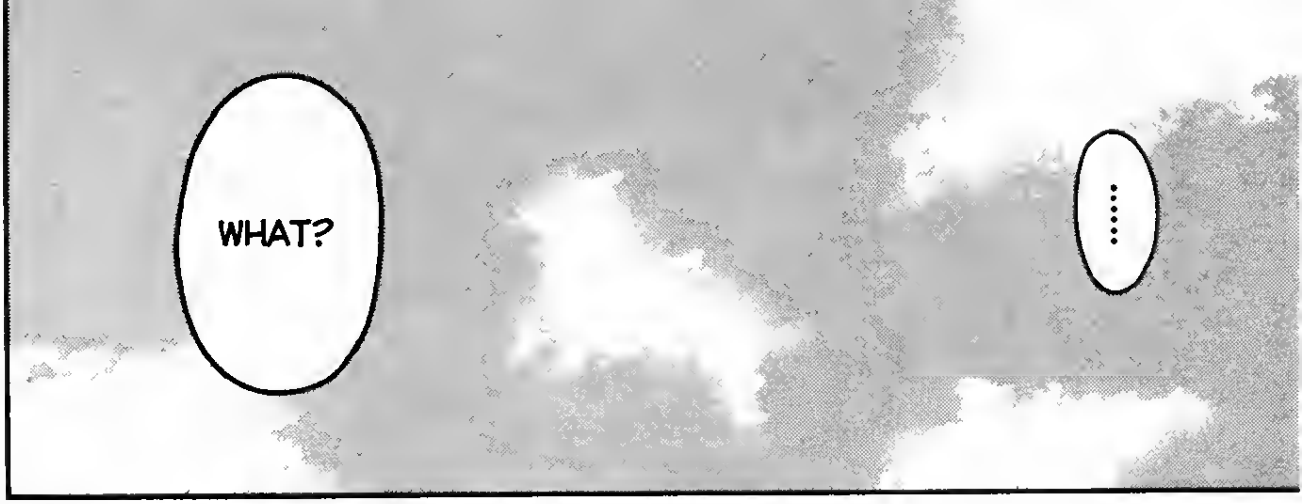

AM GONNA BE LIVING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS FROM NOW ON?
I...

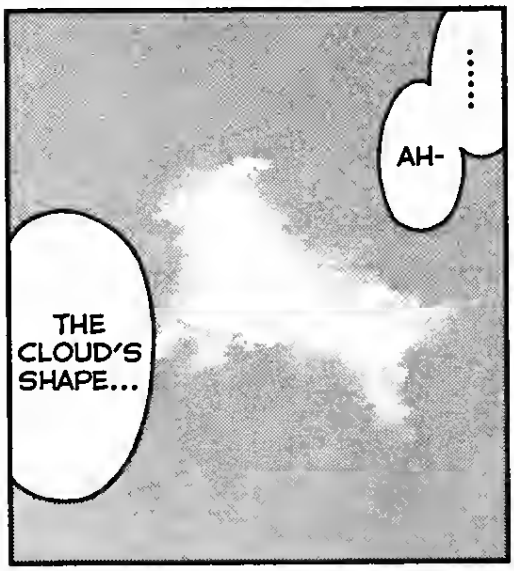
THAT'S NOT TRUE.

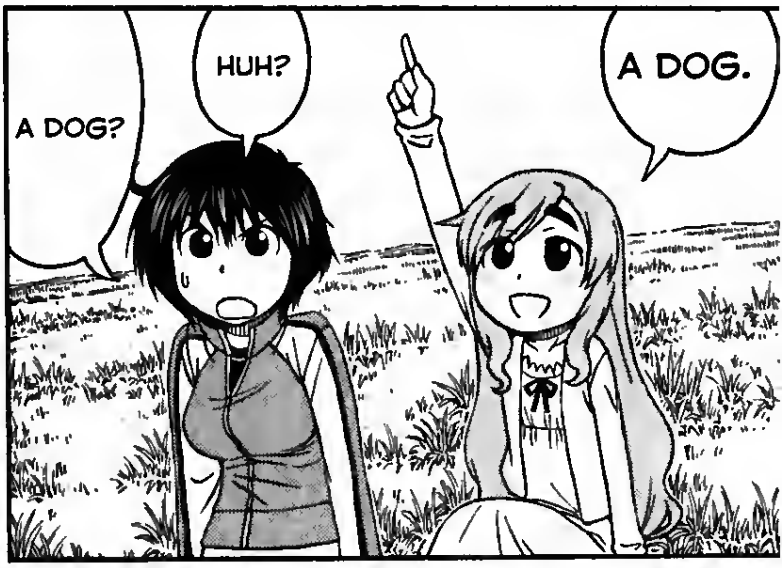
A PLACE LIKE THIS...
THERE'S DEFI-NITELY NOT A SINGLE FUN THING HERE AT ALL.

I'M FIN-ISHED...

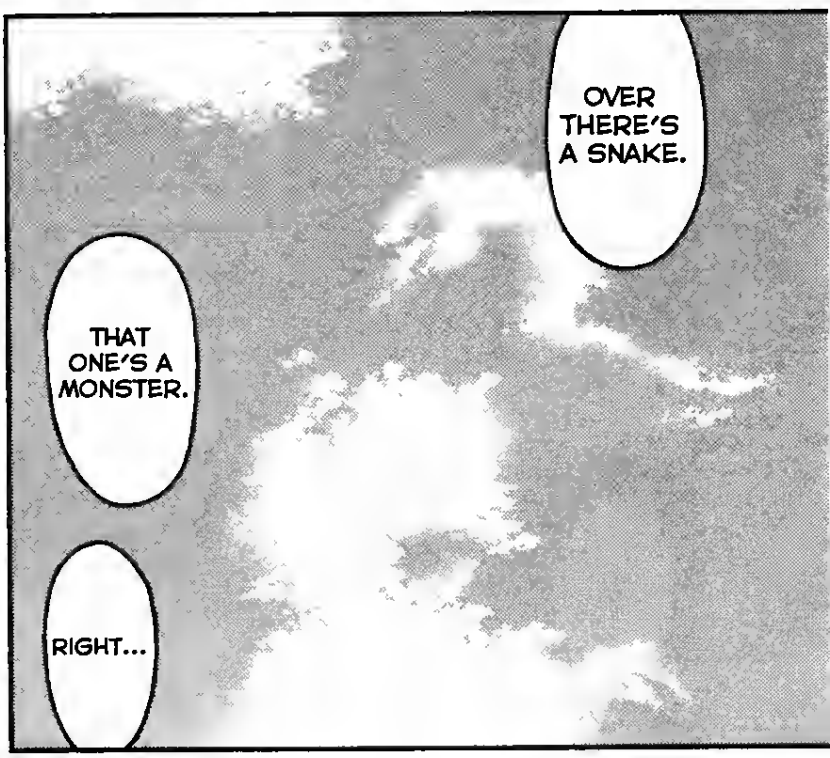

LOOK.
FOR EXAMPLE.
EH?

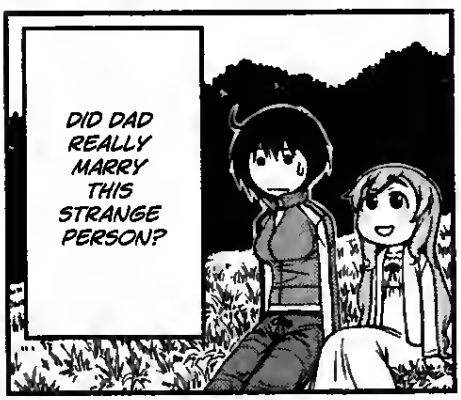

WHAT?
.....

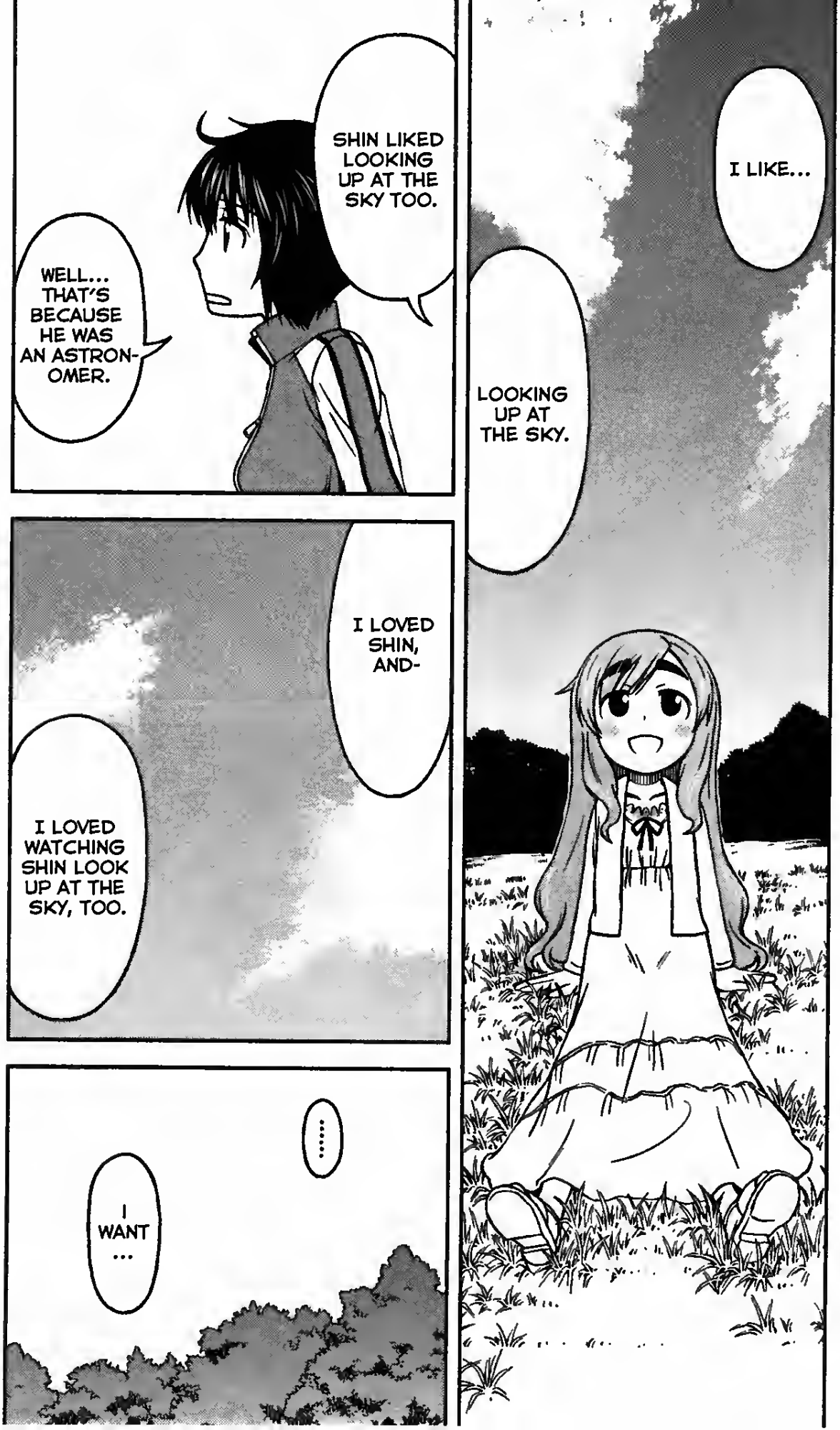

.....
AH-
THE CLOUD'S SHAPE...


A DOG?
HUH?
A DOG.

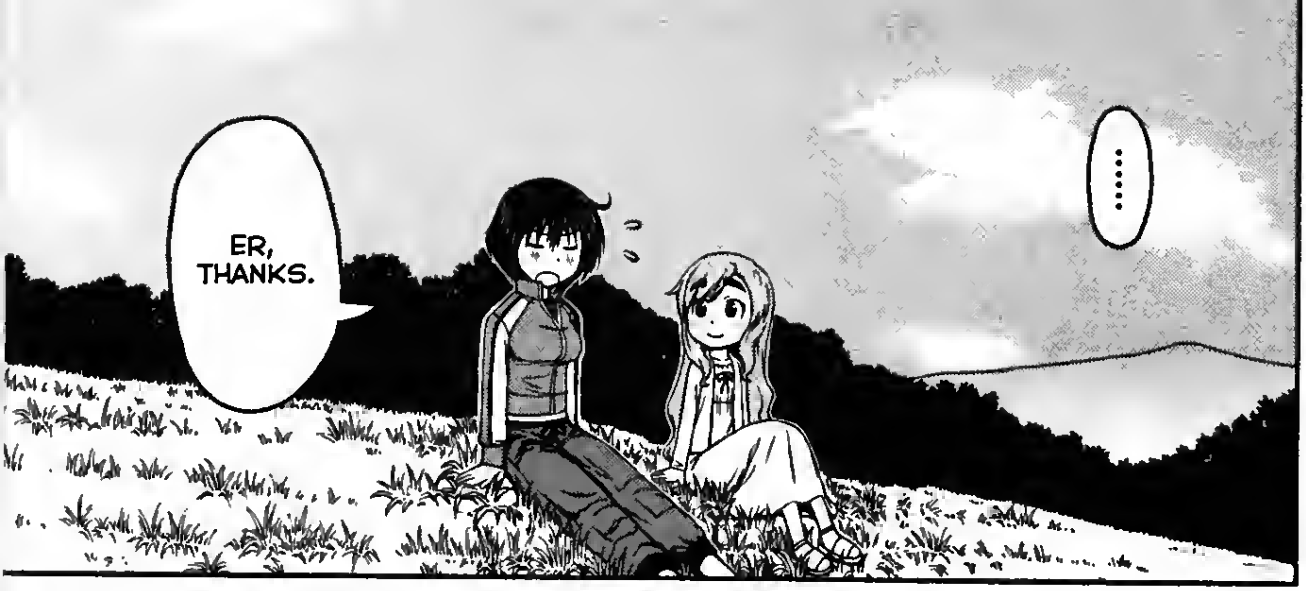
UWA~ I CAN'T FOLLOW HER.
See?


OVER THERE'S A SNAKE.
THAT ONE'S A MONSTER.
RIGHT...

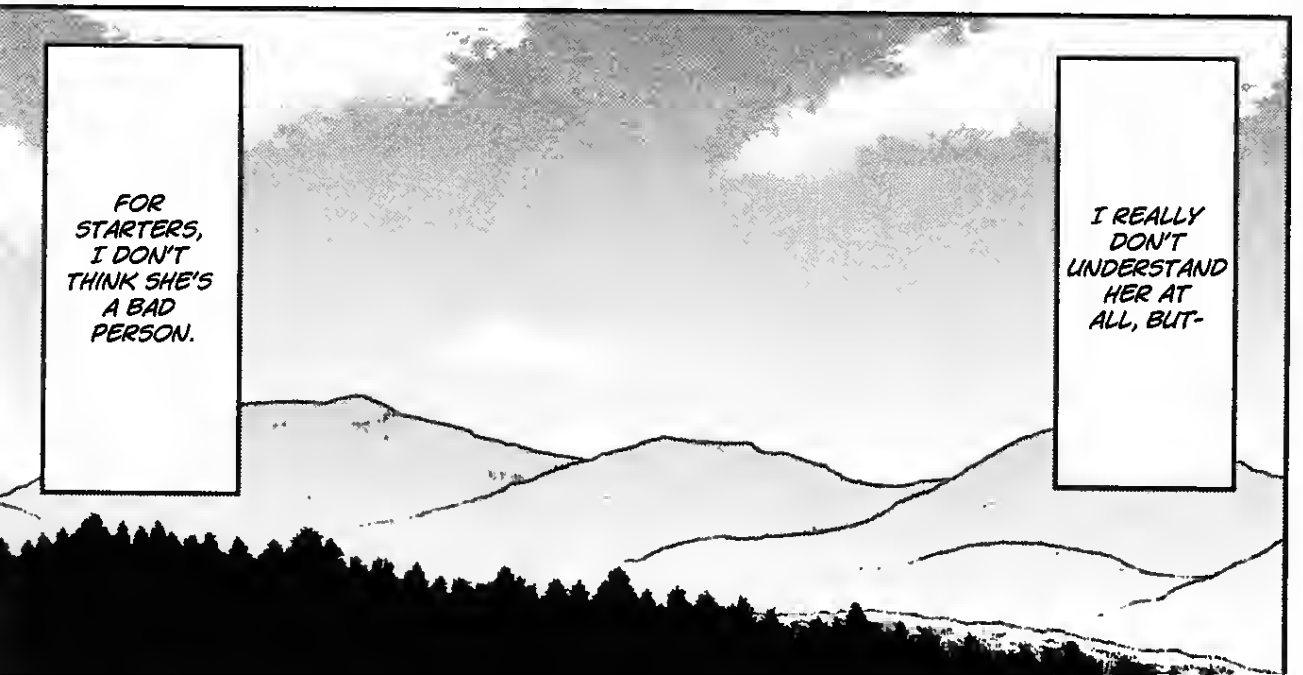

DID DAD REALLY MARRY THIS STRANGE PERSON?


I LIKE...
LOOKING UP AT THE SKY.
SHIN LIKED LOOKING UP AT THE SKY TOO.
WELL... THAT'S BECAUSE HE WAS AN ASTRON-OMER.
I LOVED SHIN, AND-
I LOVED WATCHING SHIN LOOK UP AT THE SKY, TOO.
.....
I WANT ...

TO COME TO LOVE YOU AND KOU TOO.


ER, THANKS.
.....

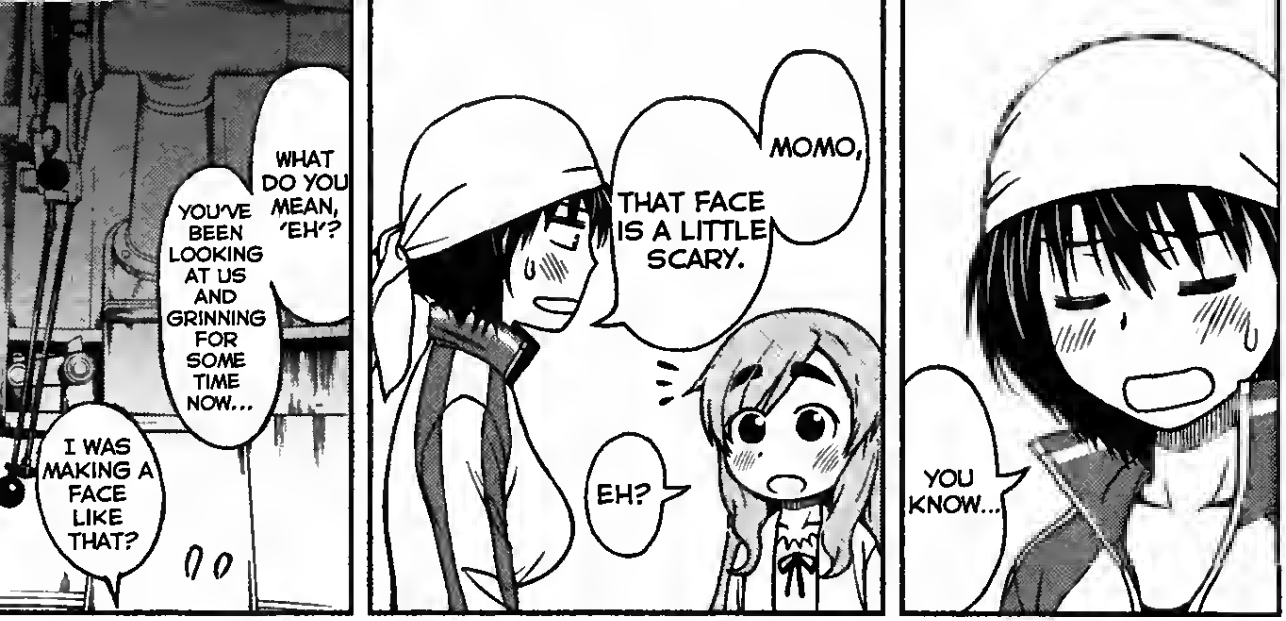
IN HER CASE, IT SEEMS TO BE DIFFERENT...
NORMALLY, YOU'D THINK KIDS BROUGHT ALONG FROM A PREVIOUS MARRIAGE WOULD BE A BOTHER, BUT-


FOR STARTERS, I DON'T THINK SHE'S A BAD PERSON.
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND HER AT ALL, BUT-

MY PROBLEM STILL HASN'T BEEN SOLVED.
THAT'S RIGHT.
AH.
TOGETHER.
WE'LL SEARCH MORE FOR A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN GET A SIGNAL.
YES.

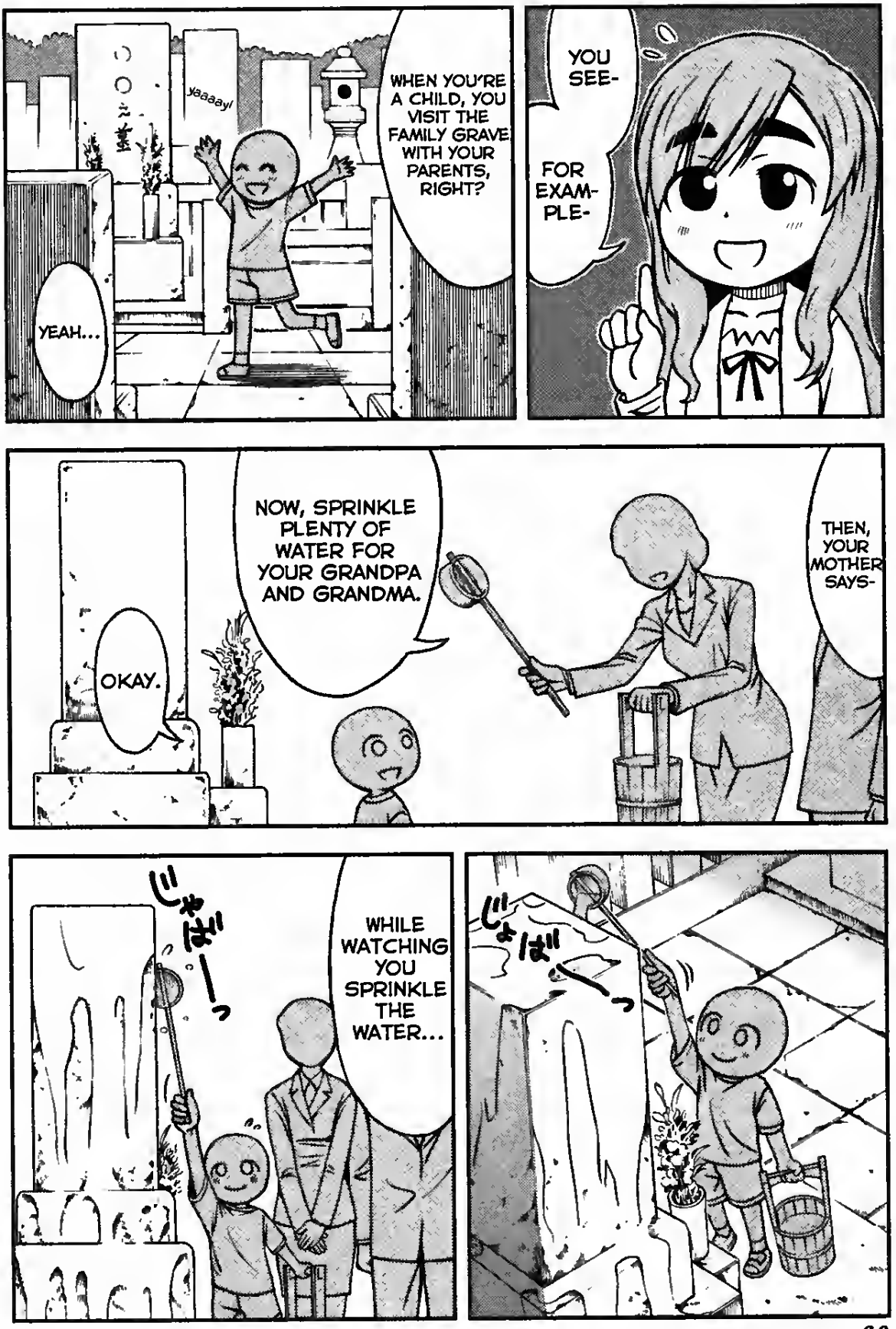
Chapter 3 Observatory

SFX: FOOLISH GRIN

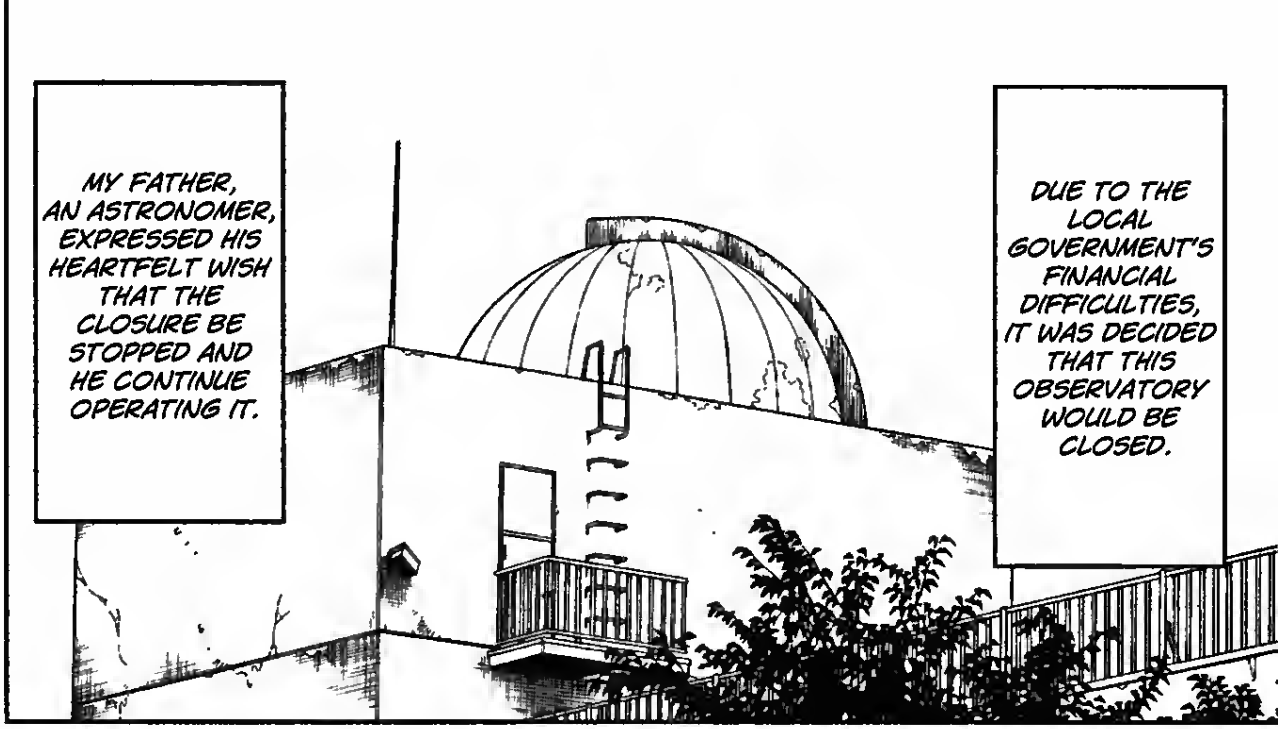

I WAS MAKING A FACE LIKE THAT?
YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING AT US AND GRINNING FOR SOME TIME NOW...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, 'EH'?
MOMO, THAT FACE IS A LITTLE SCARY.
EH?
YOU KNOW...

IT'S MOMO'S WORKPLACE.
THIS IS THE "SASANOHA OBSERVATORY". IT'S BUILT A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY FROM OUR HOME.

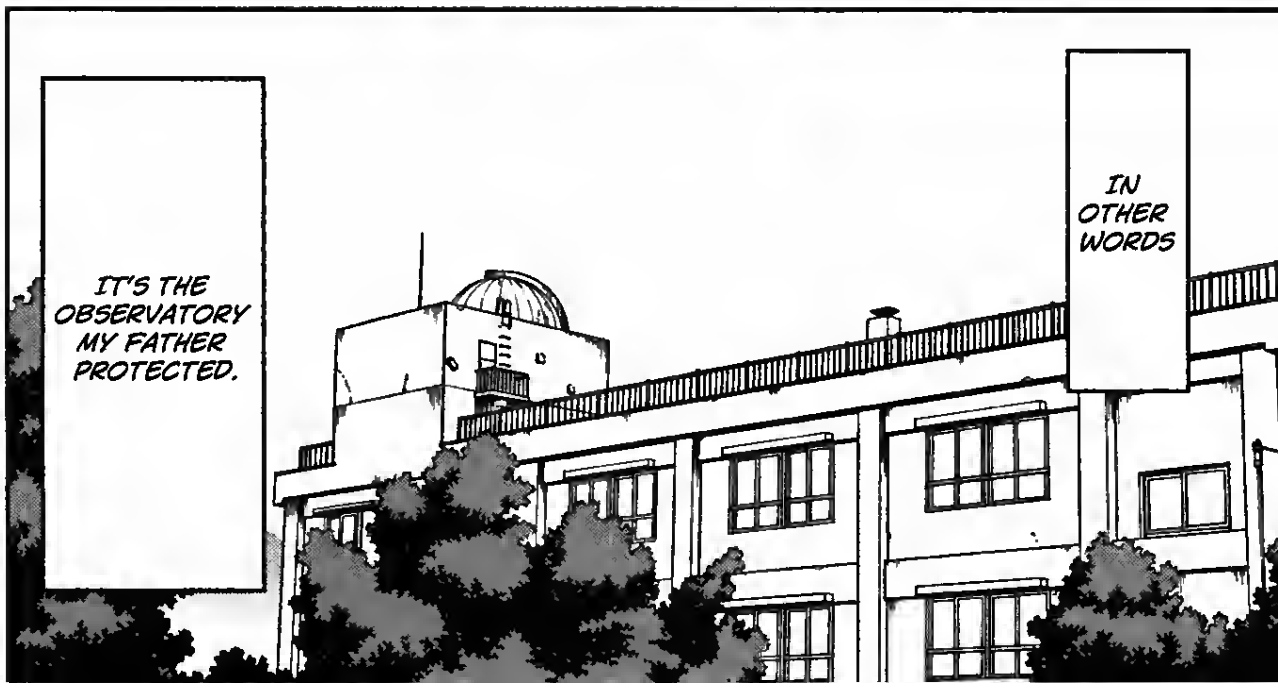
KOUTA AND I DECIDED TO HELP HER OUT, BUT...
UM...
HEARING THAT MOMO WAS GOING TO CLEAN THE WHOLE PLACE UP BY HERSELF...


WHEN YOU'RE A CHILD, YOU VISIT THE FAMILY GRAVE WITH YOUR PARENTS, RIGHT?
yaaaay!
YEAH...
YOU SEE-
FOR EXAM-PLE-
NOW, SPRINKLE PLENTY OF WATER FOR YOUR GRANDPA AND GRANDMA.
OKAY.
THEN, YOUR MOTHER SAYS-
じゃばーっ
WHILE WATCHING YOU SPRINKLE THE WATER...
じゃばっ

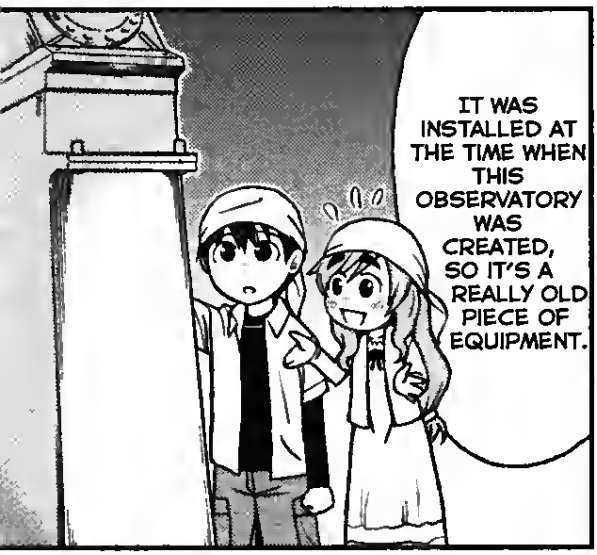
WE'VE RAISED THIS CHILD WELL.
-IT'S JUST LIKE THAT.
ポワワワ...
SO THAT DISTURBING LOOK WAS AN "UNDISGUISED MATERNAL GAZE", HUH...
Oh, how silly of me...
ALTHOUGH, CERTAINLY, IT MIGHT BE RIGHT TO CALL THIS OBSERVATORY MY FATHER'S GRAVE MARKER...
EH HH HH HH?
IT'S CREEPY
ANYWAY, PLEASE STOP WITH THAT FACE.

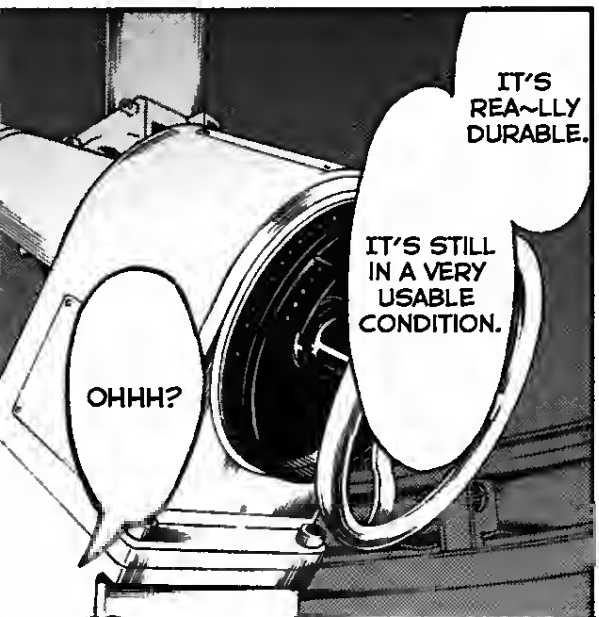

MY FATHER, AN ASTRONOMER, EXPRESSED HIS HEARTFELT WISH THAT THE CLOSURE BE STOPPED AND HE CONTINUE OPERATING IT.
DUE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THIS OBSERVATORY WOULD BE CLOSED.

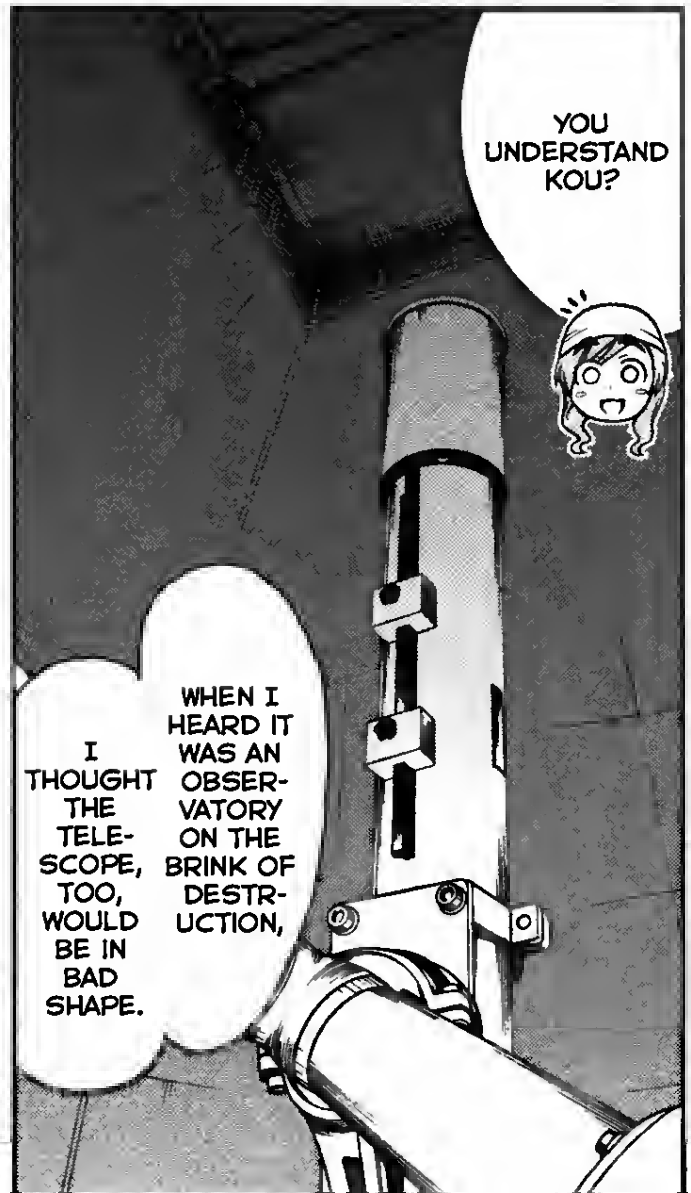
IT WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE THE DANGER OF CLOSURE.
WITH THE CONDITIONS THAT ONLY THE MINIMAL OPERATING EXPENSES WOULD BE PROVIDED, AND THAT MY FATHER WOULD OPERATE IT ALONE

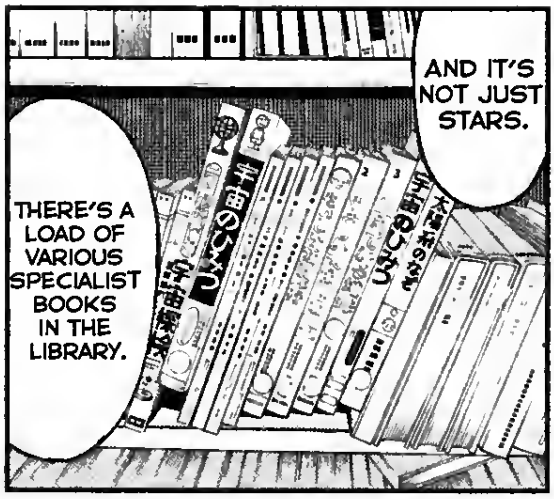

IT'S THE OBSERVATORY MY FATHER PROTECTED.
IN OTHER WORDS

SAY.
THIS TELE-SCOPE IS
REALLY SOMETHING, HUH?

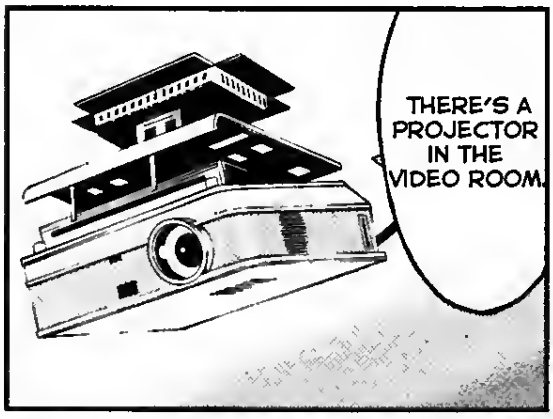

IT WAS INSTALLED AT THE TIME WHEN THIS OBSERVATORY WAS CREATED, SO IT'S A REALLY OLD PIECE OF EQUIPMENT.


IT'S REA~LLY DURABLE.
IT'S STILL IN A VERY USABLE CONDITION.
OHHH?


YOU UNDERSTAND KOU?
WHEN I HEARD IT WAS AN OBSER-VATORY ON THE BRINK OF DESTR-UCTION,
I THOUGHT THE TELE-SCOPE, TOO, WOULD BE IN BAD SHAPE.


AND IT'S NOT JUST STARS.
THERE'S A LOAD OF VARIOUS SPECIALIST BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY.

WHAT'S THIS, KOUTA?
YOU INTER-ESTED IN STARS AND STUFF?
JUST A LITTLE.

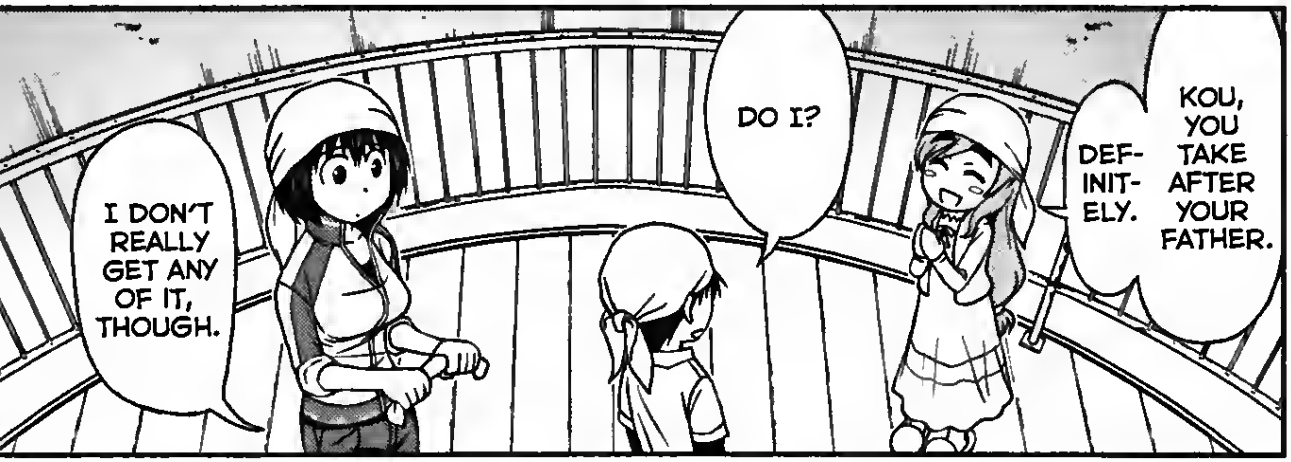

THERE'S A PROJECTOR IN THE VIDEO ROOM.

FROM MY VIEWPOINT, IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THAT AT ALL THOUGH...
INTER-EST-ING... IS IT?

THIS PLACE IS SURPR-ISINGLY INTER-ESTING.
REALLY?

SUP-POSEDLY IT'S A FACILITY ON THE BRINK OF CLOSURE, BUT...

COME VISIT WHENEVER YOU LIKE.
YES, THAT'S FINE.
MAY I COME VISIT HERE AGAIN?


I DON'T REALLY GET ANY OF IT, THOUGH.
DO I?
DEF-INIT-ELY.
KOU, YOU TAKE AFTER YOUR FATHER.

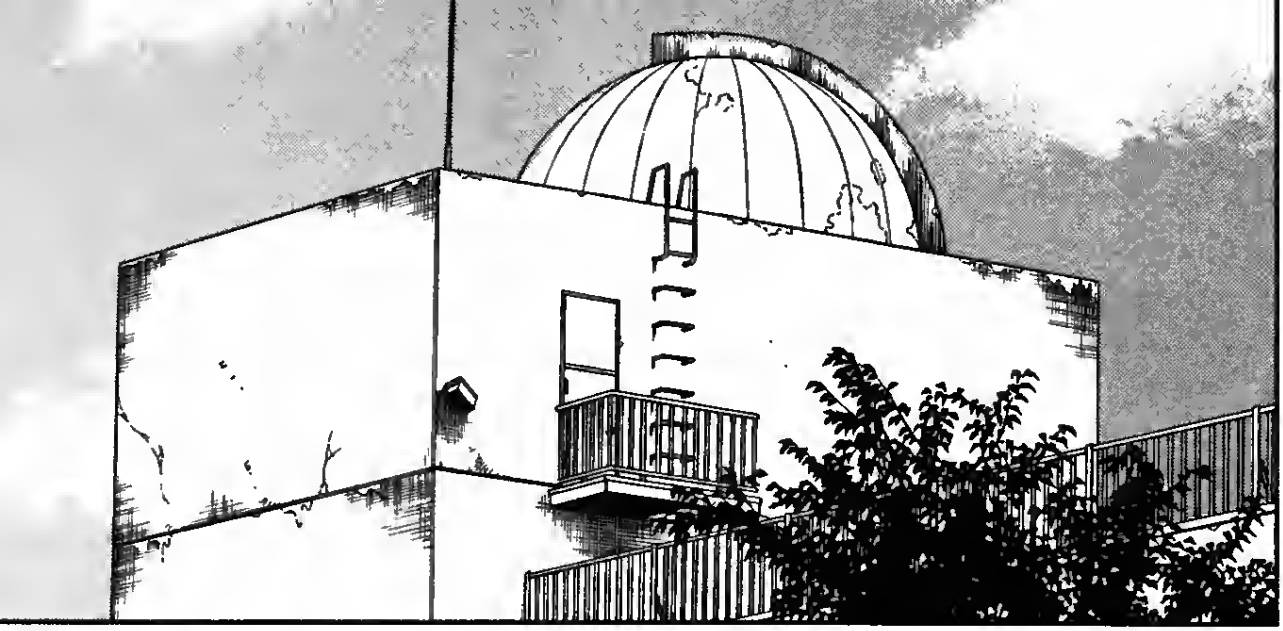
MAKING ME FEEL KINDA IRRI-TATED...
SOMEHOW, SOMETHING IS...
あ！

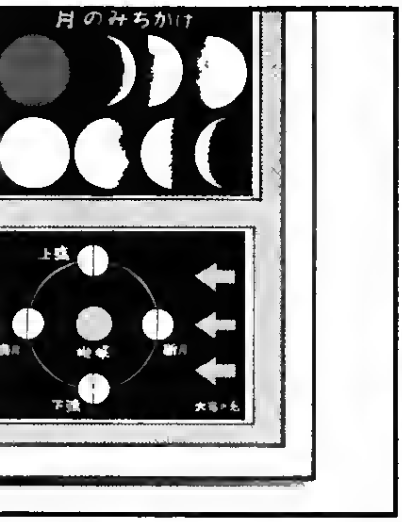
.....
Ohhh?
So, about the projector's film-

YOU KNOW
.....
THIS OBSERV-ATORY...
IS TOO ROOMY.

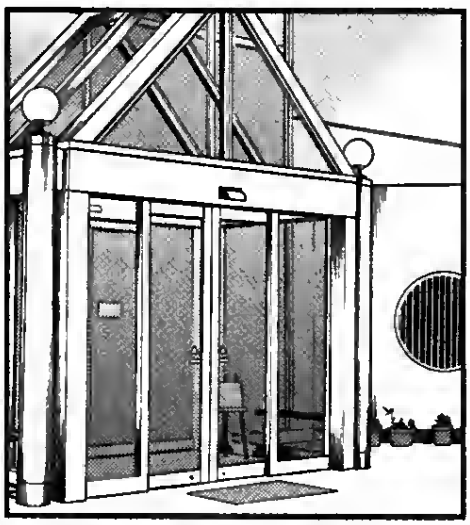
EH HH HH HH
LET'S WORK HARD ON THE REST OF THE CLEANING.
here you go

CAN'T WE DO THE REST OF IT NEXT TIME?
うへー
NO, NO. WHEN YOU DECIDE TO DO SOMETHING, YOU HAVE TO DO IT TO THE END.



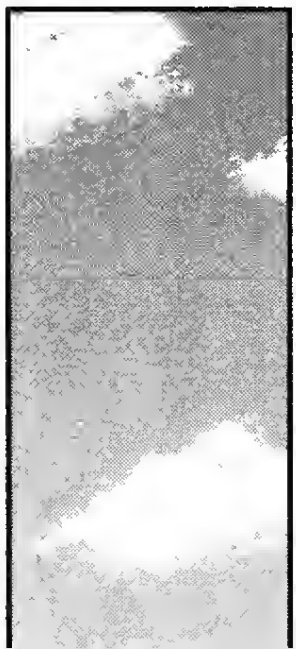

月のみちかけ
上弦
地球
新月
下弦
大潮

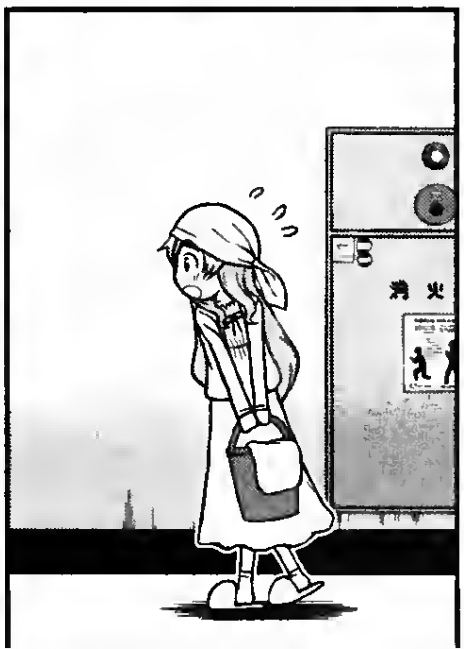
筆記が必要な方は
係員にお申し出ください。



ぎゅ

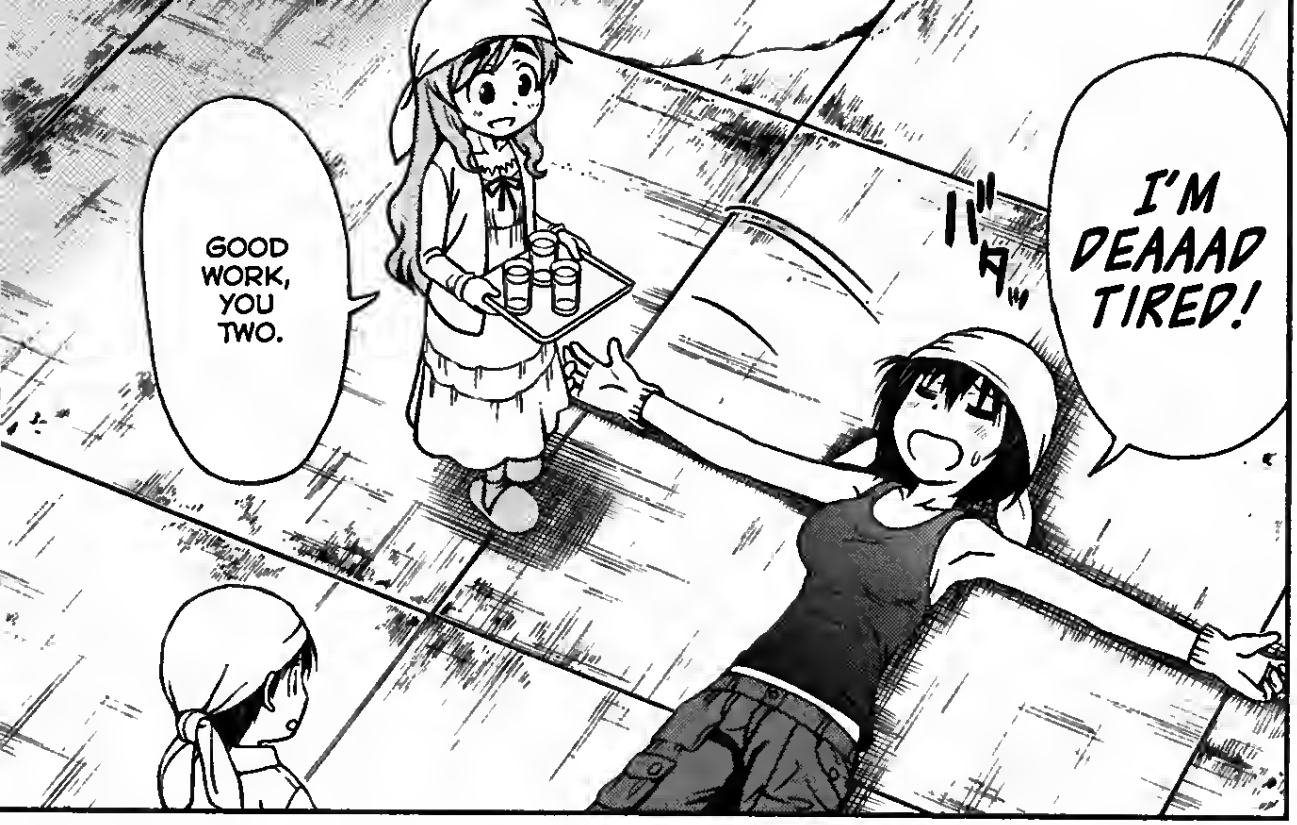
消火器





I'M THIRSTY...
.....
SO HOT!
OHHH, GEEEEZE!
THERE WOULDN'T BE ONE OF THOSE HERE, WOULD THERE...
A vending machine with juice
Some-where
.....

ARGG GGHH!

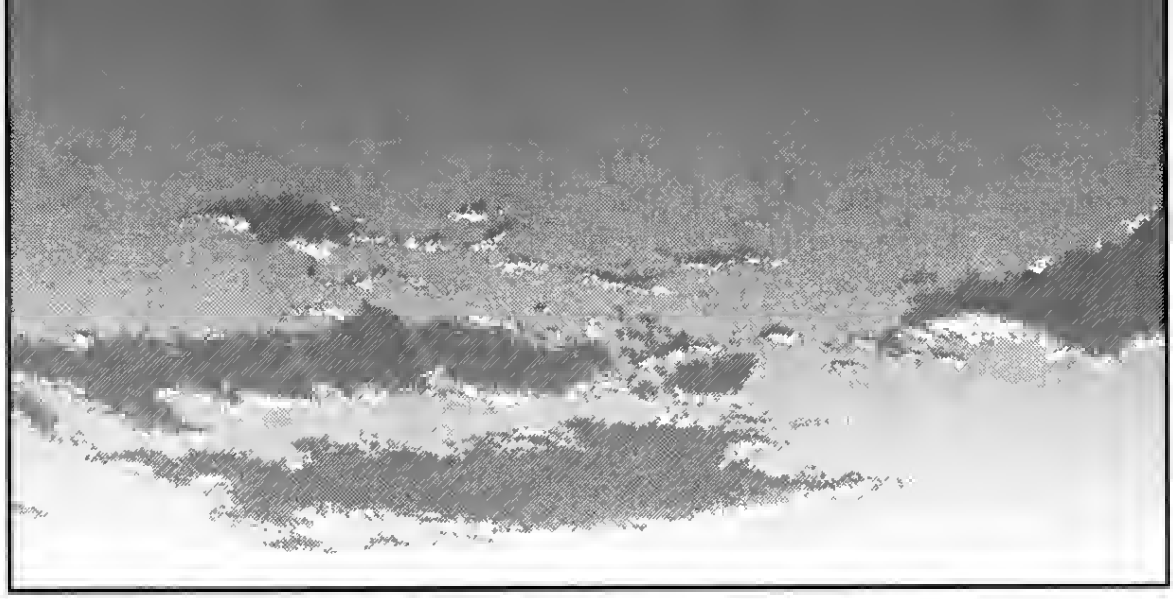

GOOD WORK, YOU TWO.
I'M DEAAAD TIRED!

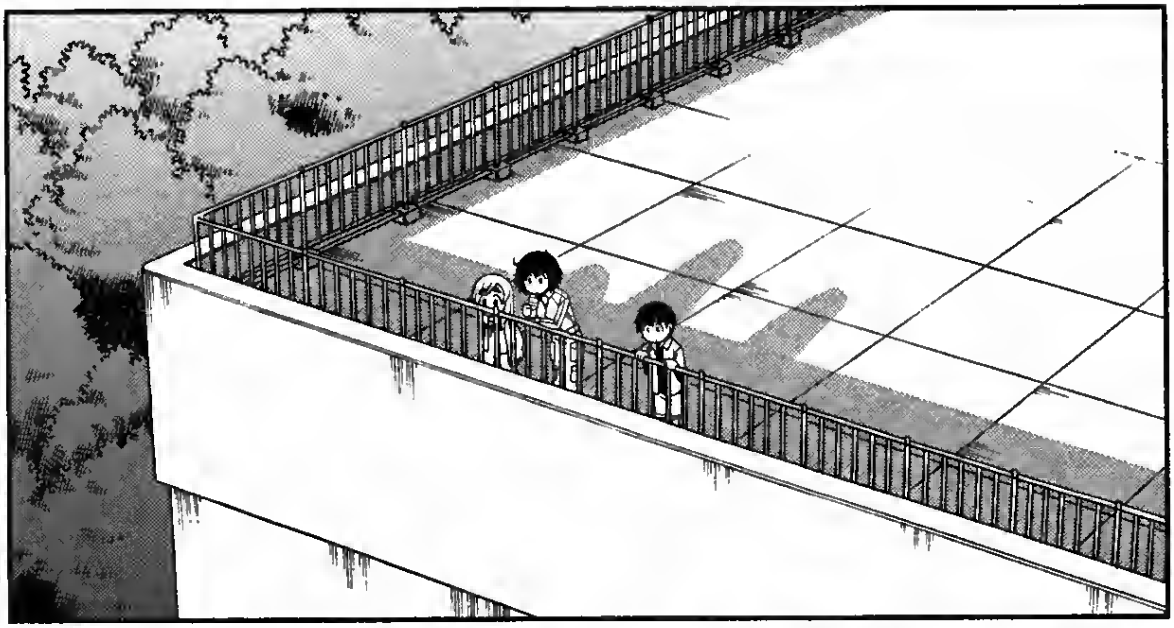
I BROUGHT WATER, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
IT'S GOOD AND COLD, YOU KNOW?
water!
AH, PLEASE!

THIS WATER'S NICE...

AHH HHH HH.

ごくごく

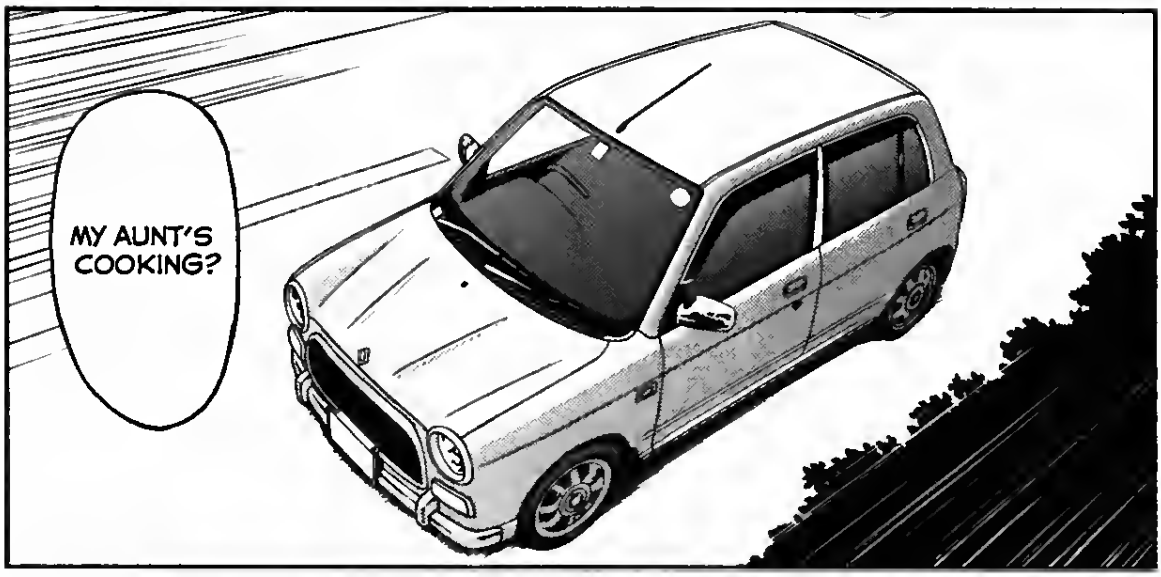


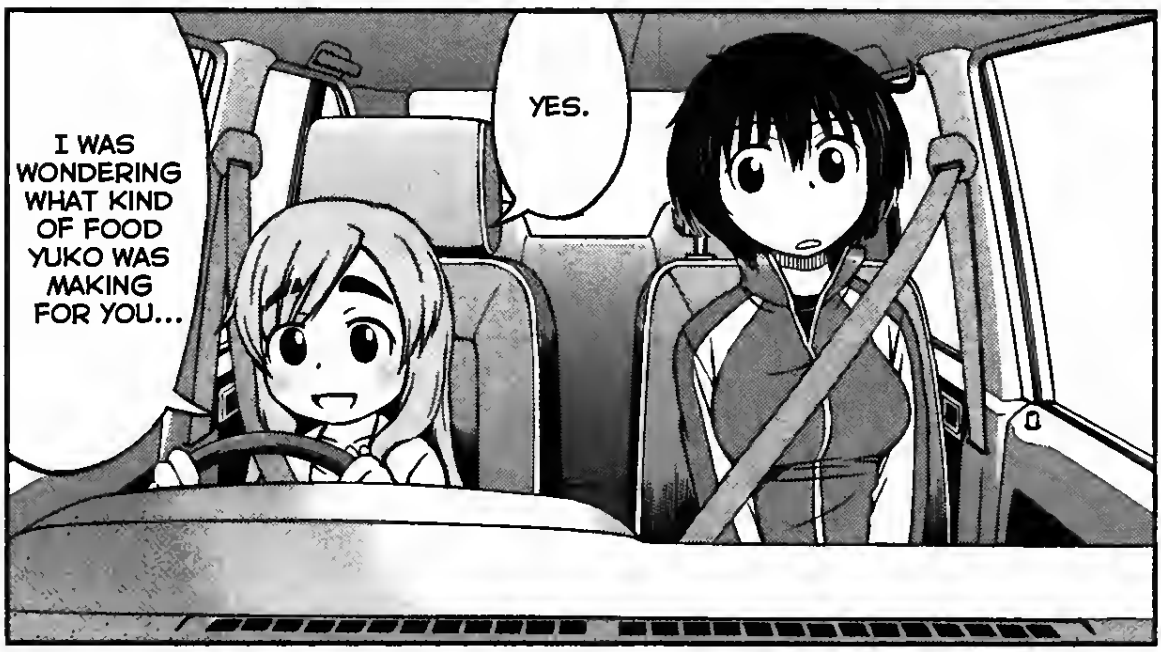


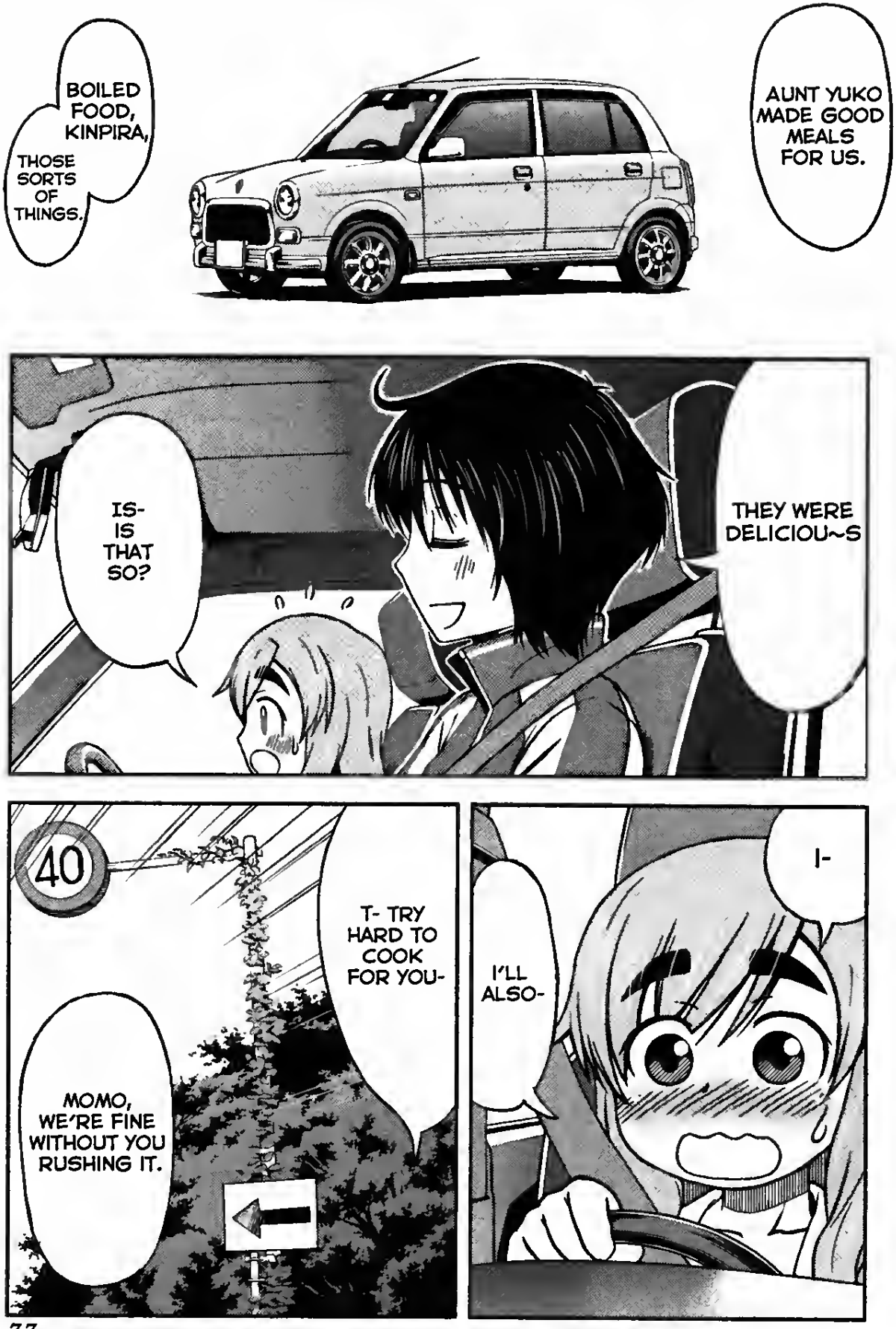
YES.
MOMO.
SUP-
POSING
DAD
WERE
STILL
ALIVE,
WOULD THE
FOUR OF
US BE
DRINKING
WATER
TOGETHER
HERE?
.....
IS
THAT
SO?
THEN...
ごぉぉ
ごぉぉ

MY FATHER NEEDS TO...
GET HIS SHARE TOO, RIGHT?
MOMO.
ニヤ
ニヤ
ニヤ
THAT FACE IS CREEPY,
SO IT'S PRO-HIBITED FROM NOW ON.
EH HH HH?!

Chapter 4 Supermarket

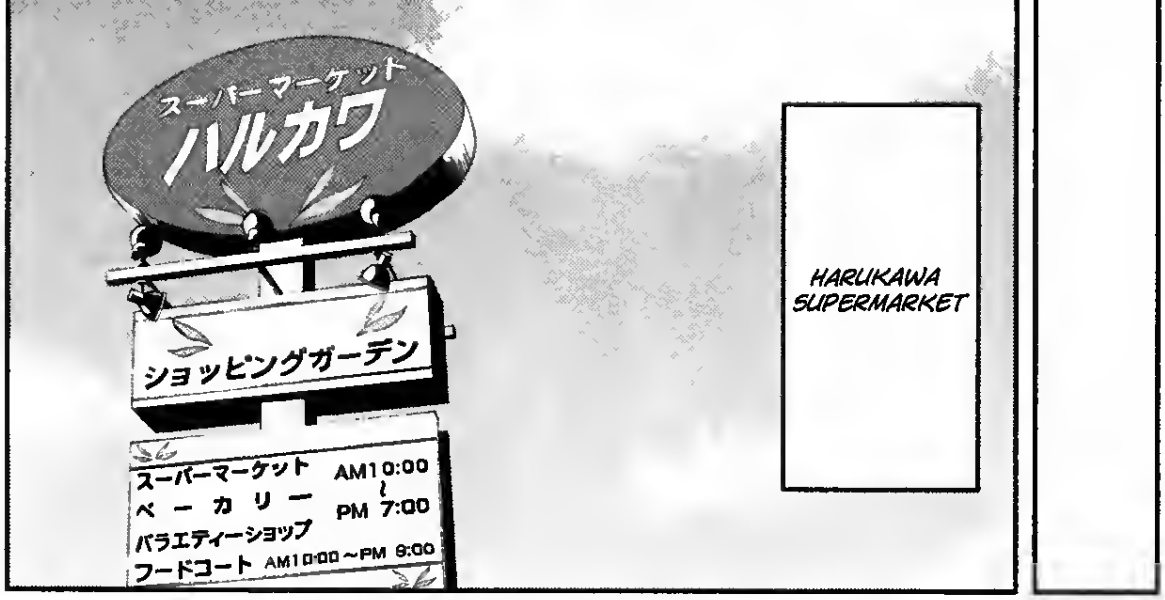

MY AUNT'S COOKING?

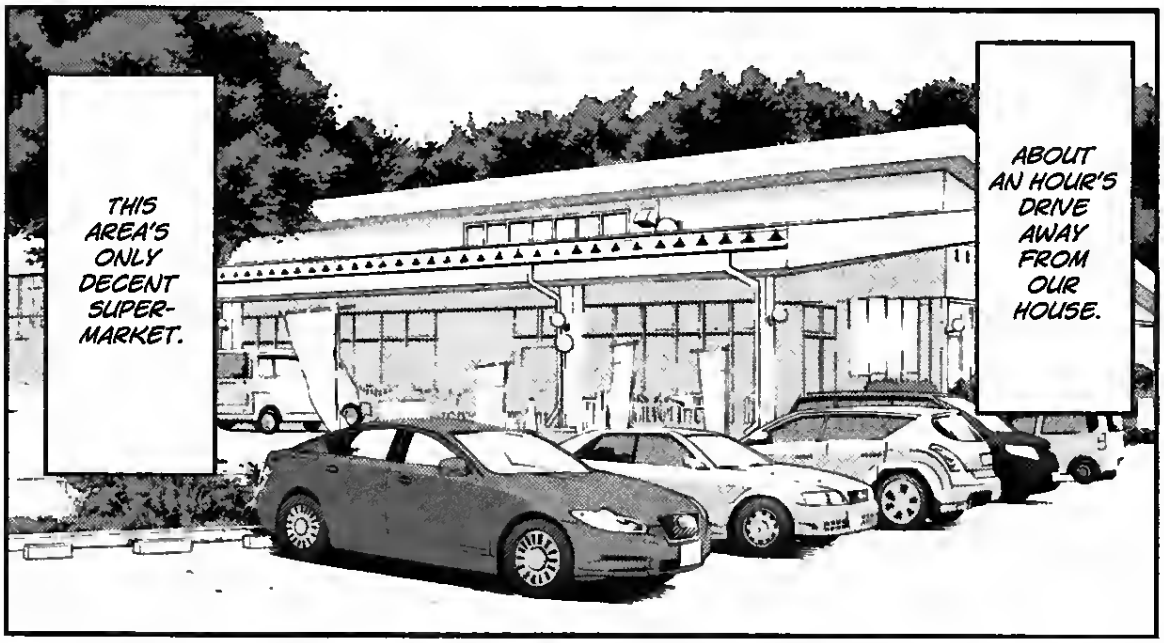

YES.
I WAS WONDERING WHAT KIND OF FOOD YUKO WAS MAKING FOR YOU...

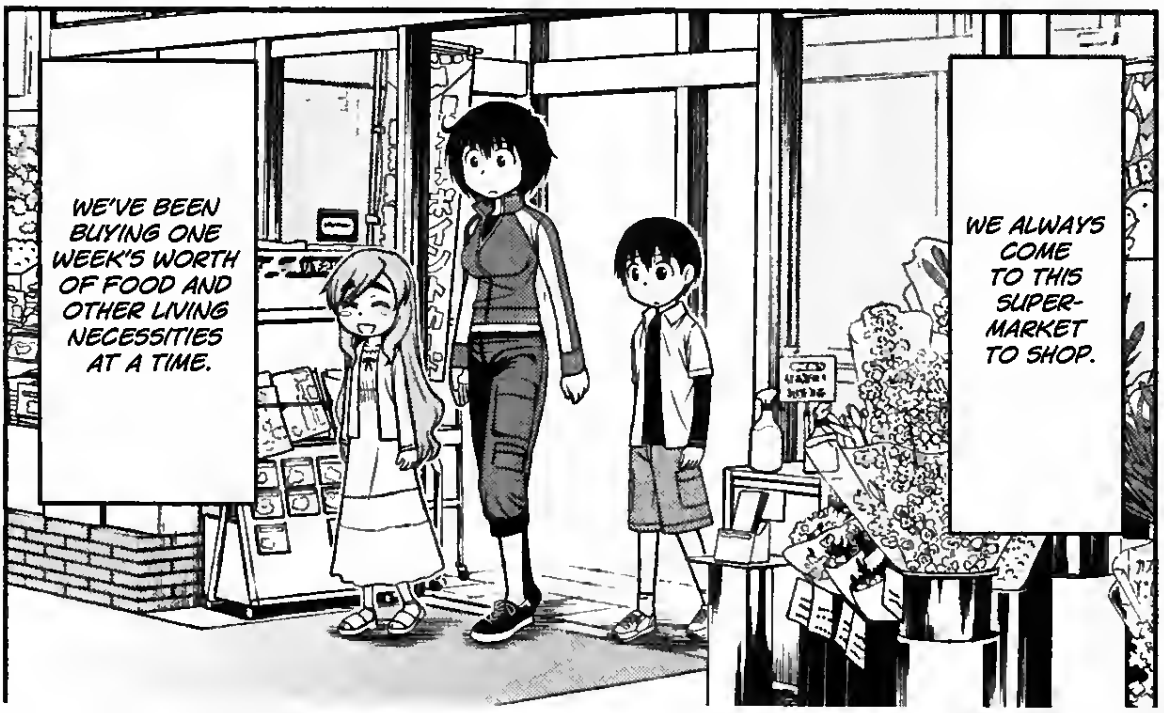

BOILED FOOD, KINPIRA, THOSE SORTS OF THINGS.
AUNT YUKO MADE GOOD MEALS FOR US.
IS- IS THAT SO?
THEY WERE DELICIOU~S
40
T- TRY HARD TO COOK FOR YOU-
MOMO, WE'RE FINE WITHOUT YOU RUSHING IT.
I-
I'LL ALSO-

IS THAT RIGHT?
ALTHOUGH, SINCE I LIKE CHINESE FOOD,
THERE MAY HAVE BEEN MORE OF THAT.
SHE MADE US A NICE BALANCE OF VARIOUS MEALS.
OHHH~
AUNT YUKO'S HANDMADE GYOUZA IS RIDICULOUSLY TASTY.
I WAS ALWAYS MAKING REQUESTS LIKE, "TODAY, I WANT TO EAT HANDMADE GYOUZA."
I CAN HEAR YOU TALKING TO YOURSELF.
ゴゴゴ
HIMARI LIKES CHINESE. HIMARI LIKES CHINESE.
OKAY, I MEMORIZED IT.
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
...I SEE~

AHH, HE'S HOPELESS.
HE WAS UNREASONABLY CONSIDERATE WITH AUNT YUKO,
HE NEVER SAID THAT SORT OF THING.
Is that so?
ME?
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR.
WHAT DID YOU REQUEST, KOU?
UH, YOU KNOW...
I THINK THAT SINCE WE WERE HER HOUSE GUESTS, WE SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THINGS LIKE THAT TOO MUCH.
ACTUALLY, IT'S HIMARI WHO WAS TOO INCONSIDERATE.
Stop fi~ghting!
BUT!
YOU THINKING LIKE THAT MAY HAVE BEEN WHAT MADE AUNT YUKO AND EVERYONE SO RESERVED AROUND US, THOUGH.


スーパーマーケット
ハルカワ
ショッピングガーデン
スーパーマーケット AM10:00
ベーカリー ～
バラエティーショップ PM 7:00
フードコート AM10:00～PM 9:00
HARUKAWA SUPERMARKET

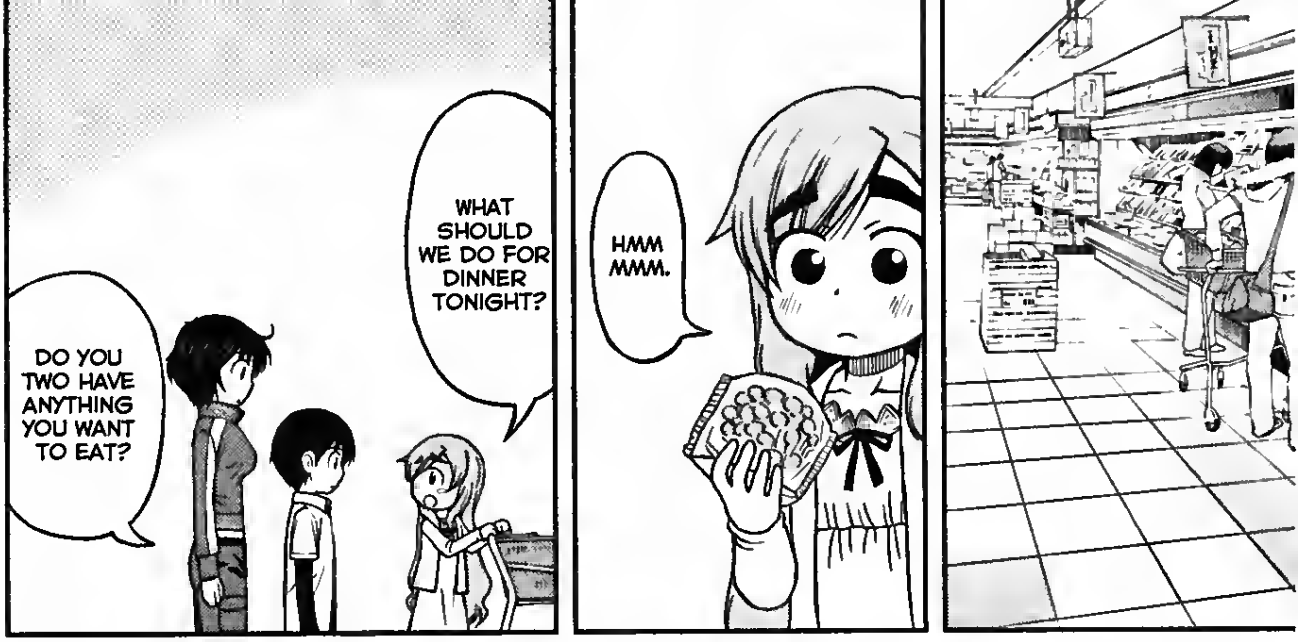

THIS AREA'S ONLY DECENT SUPER-MARKET.
ABOUT AN HOUR'S DRIVE AWAY FROM OUR HOUSE.

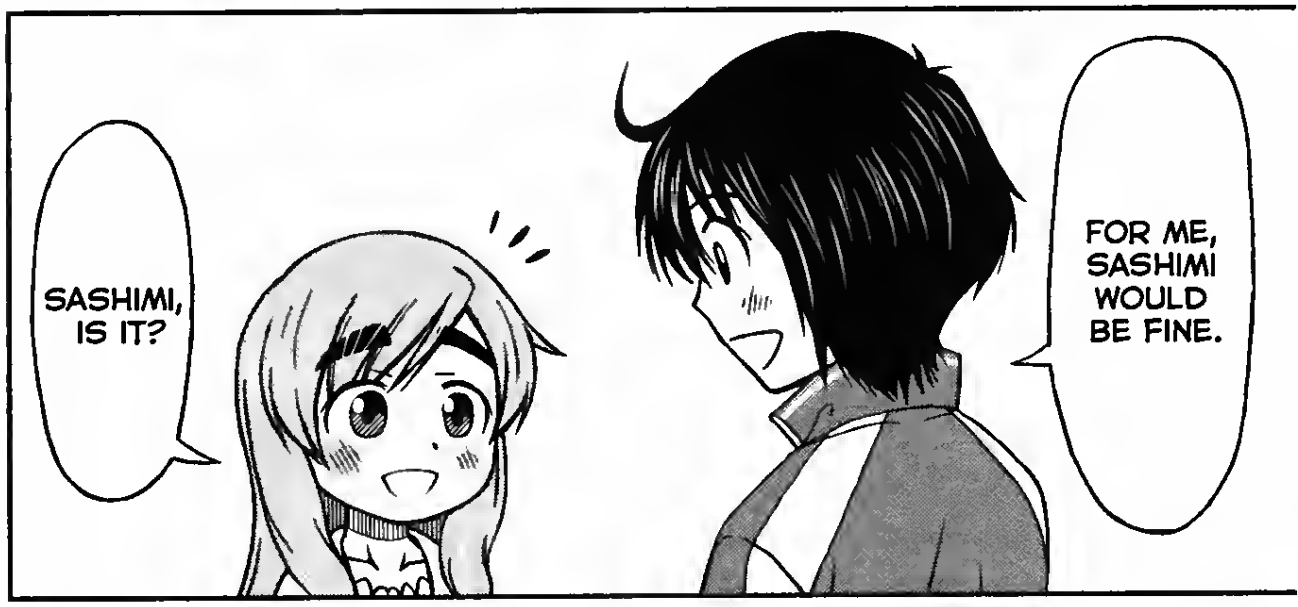

WE'VE BEEN BUYING ONE WEEK'S WORTH OF FOOD AND OTHER LIVING NECESSITIES AT A TIME.
WE ALWAYS COME TO THIS SUPER-MARKET TO SHOP.

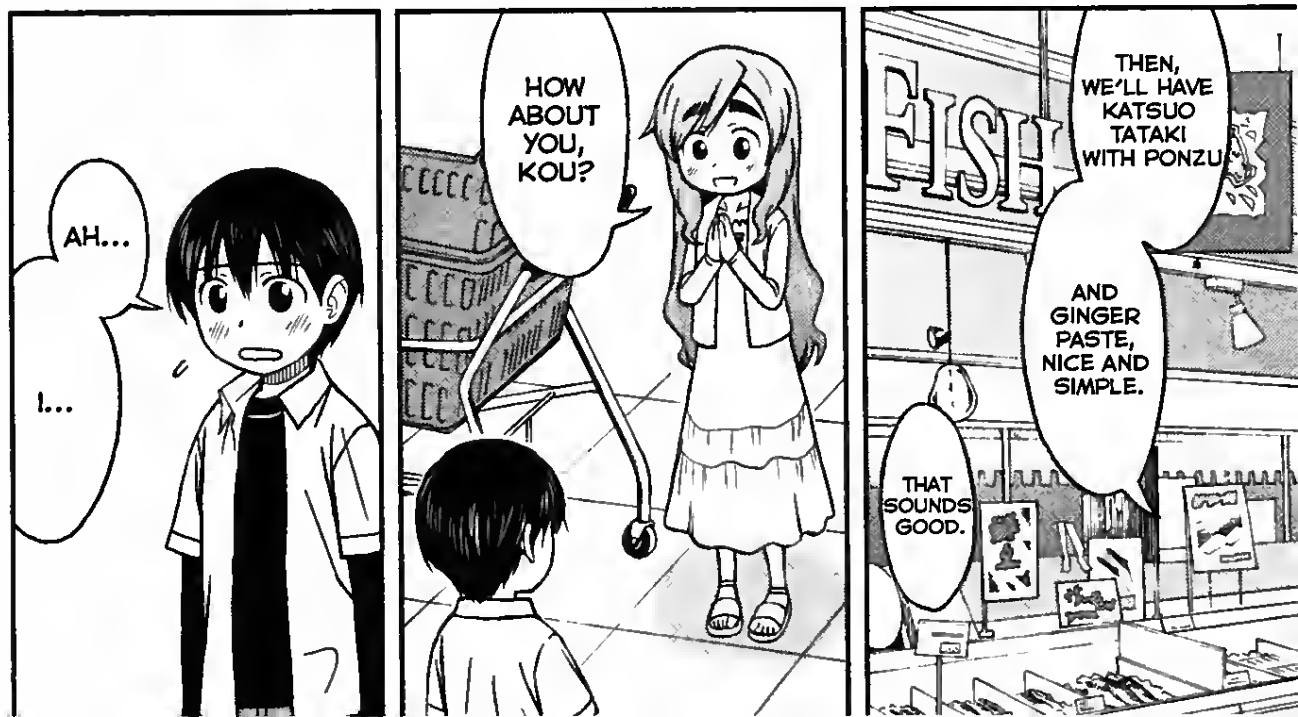
YES.
GETABLES
WELL THEN, LET'S GO.

TO BE HONEST, SHE JUST LOOKS LIKE AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLER RUNNING AN ERRAND.
YEAH

Gotta buy tomatoes


WHAT SHOULD WE DO FOR DINNER TONIGHT?
DO YOU TWO HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO EAT?
HMM MMM.

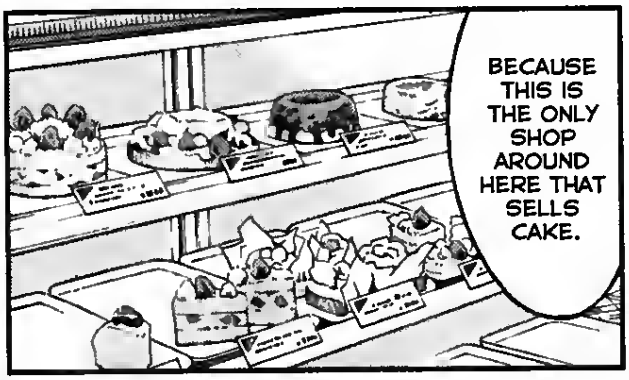

FOR ME, SASHIMI WOULD BE FINE.
SASHIMI, IS IT?


THEN, WE'LL HAVE KATSUO TATAKI WITH PONZU
AND GINGER PASTE, NICE AND SIMPLE.
THAT SOUNDS GOOD.
FISH
HOW ABOUT YOU, KOU?
AH... I...

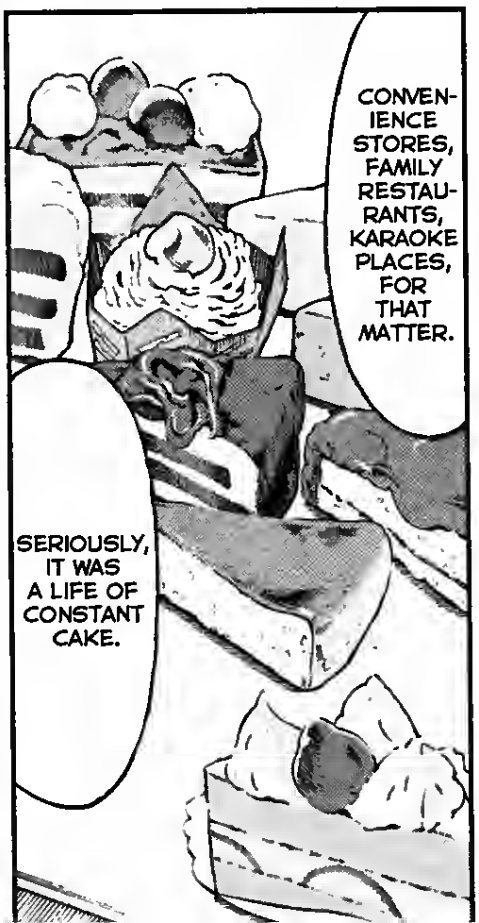
GETABLES
YES.
REALLY?
Eh?
UMM...
I'M FINE WITH WHATEVER.
OKAAAY
YOU TWO CAN GO LOOK AT THE SWEETS.
I'LL HEAD FOR THE FISH CORNER.
IS THAT SO...
OKAY.
YOU SAY THAT, BUT...
MOMO REALLY THINKS WE'RE KIDS, DOESN'T SHE?
WE CAN GO LOOK AT THE SWEETS, SHE SAYS.
YEAH.

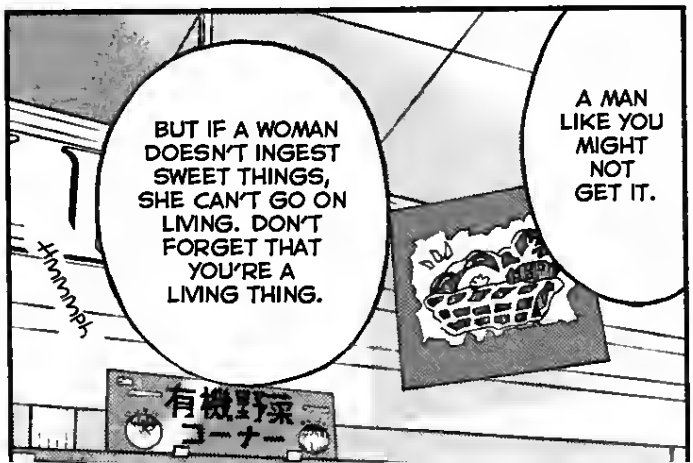
AFTER ALL,
YOU'RE GONNA BUY A TON OF CAKE AND PUDDING, RIGHT?
OF COOO-OOO-URSE!!

AHHH,
BACK WHEN WE LIVED IN THE CITY...

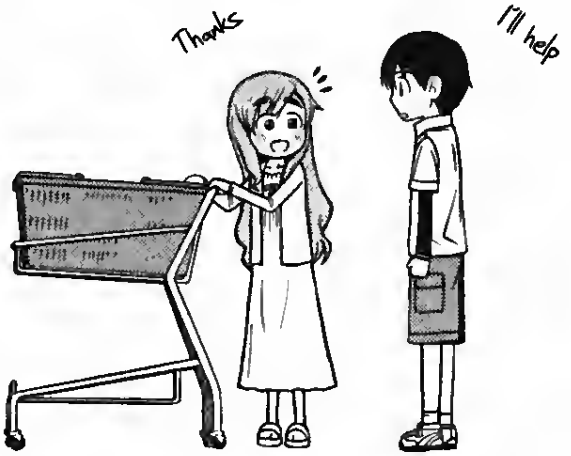

BECAUSE THIS IS THE ONLY SHOP AROUND HERE THAT SELLS CAKE.

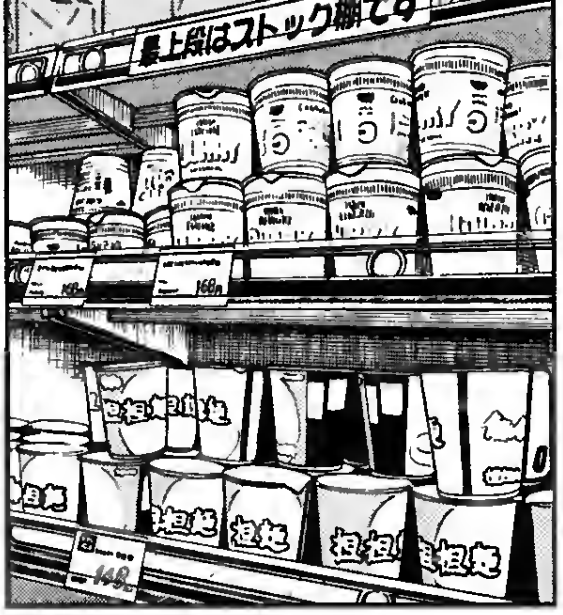
I DON'T REALLY CARE EITHER WAY.
YOU DON'T LONG FOR SWEET THINGS AT ALL?
YOU, WHEN IT COMES TO CAKE OR PUDDING


CONVEN-IENCE STORES, FAMILY RESTAU-RANTS, KARAOKE PLACES, FOR THAT MATTER.
SERIOUSLY, IT WAS A LIFE OF CONSTANT CAKE.

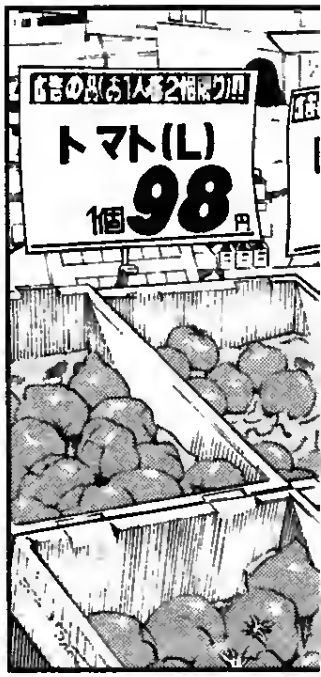

BUT IF A WOMAN DOESN'T INGEST SWEET THINGS, SHE CAN'T GO ON LIVING. DON'T FORGET THAT YOU'RE A LIVING THING.
A MAN LIKE YOU MIGHT NOT GET IT.
有機野菜コーナー

OKAY.
I leave it to you
NOW, I'M GOING TO GO BUY SOME CAKE.
PLEASE HELP MOMO WITH HER SHOPPING.


Thanks
I'll help

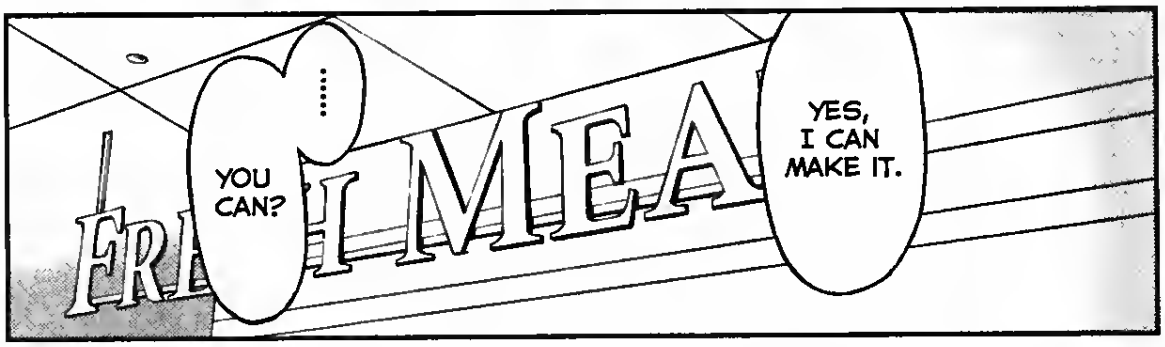

最上段はストック棚です

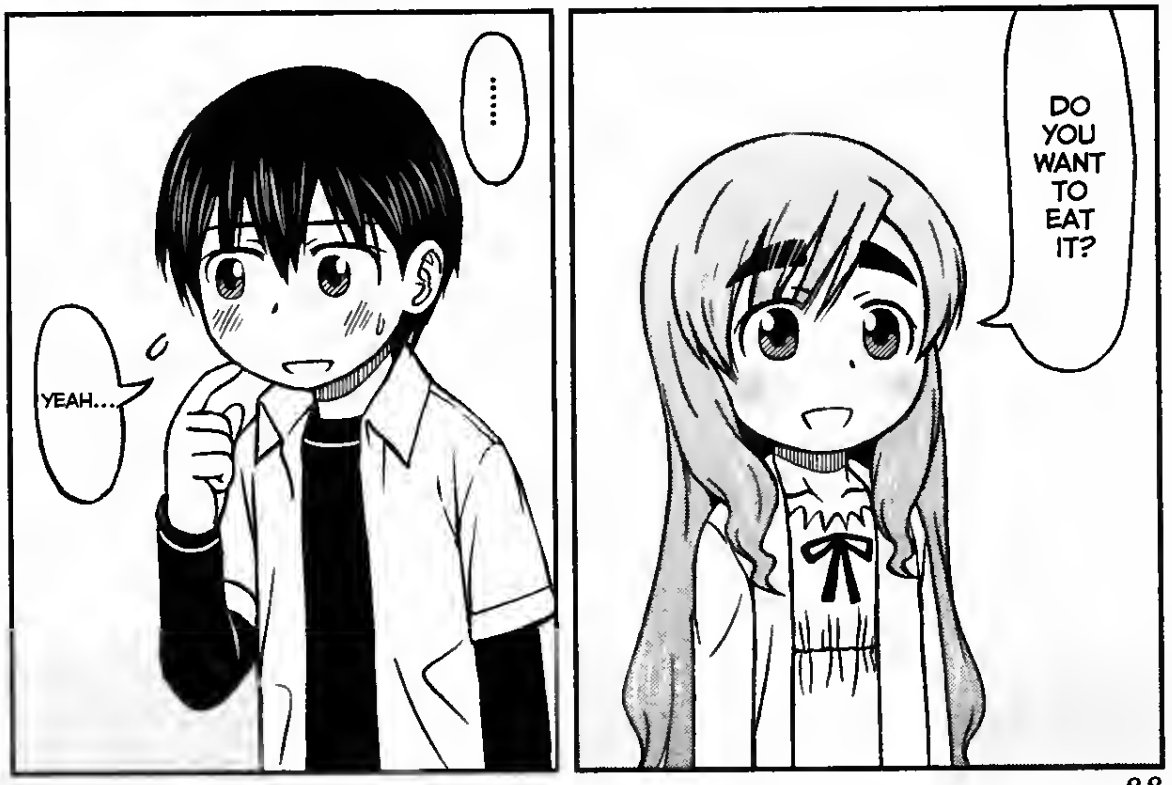
298
88
198

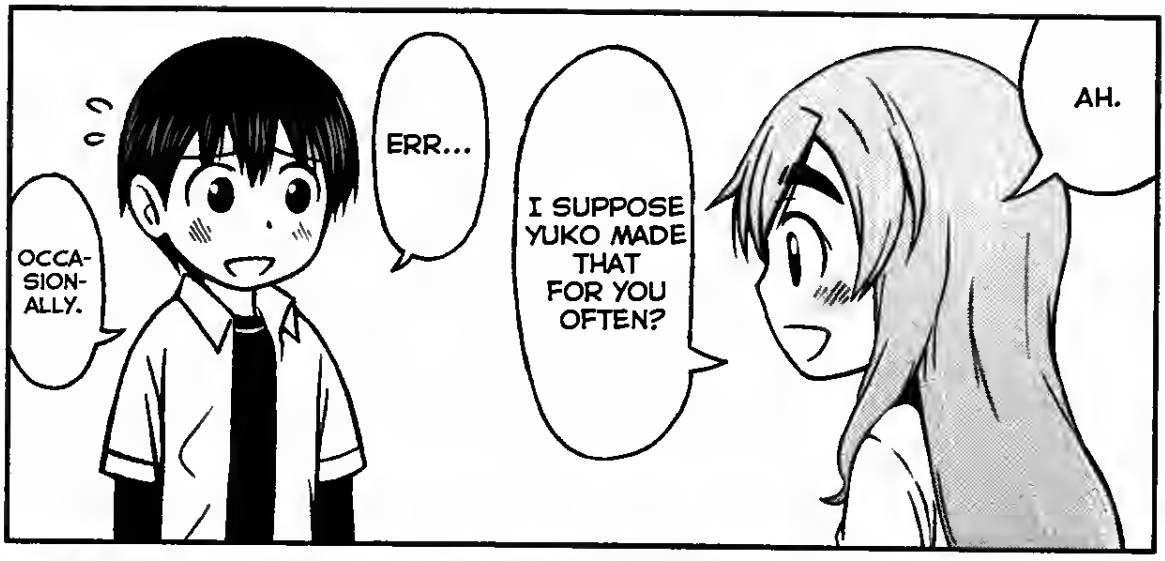

トマト(L)
1個98円

The chicken's chea~p
WAH!
手作りミートドリア
広告の品
国産 若どりモモ
100g
88円
MEAT
MOMO.
88円
Tomorrow we'll have fried chicken
UH...
?
WHA~T?

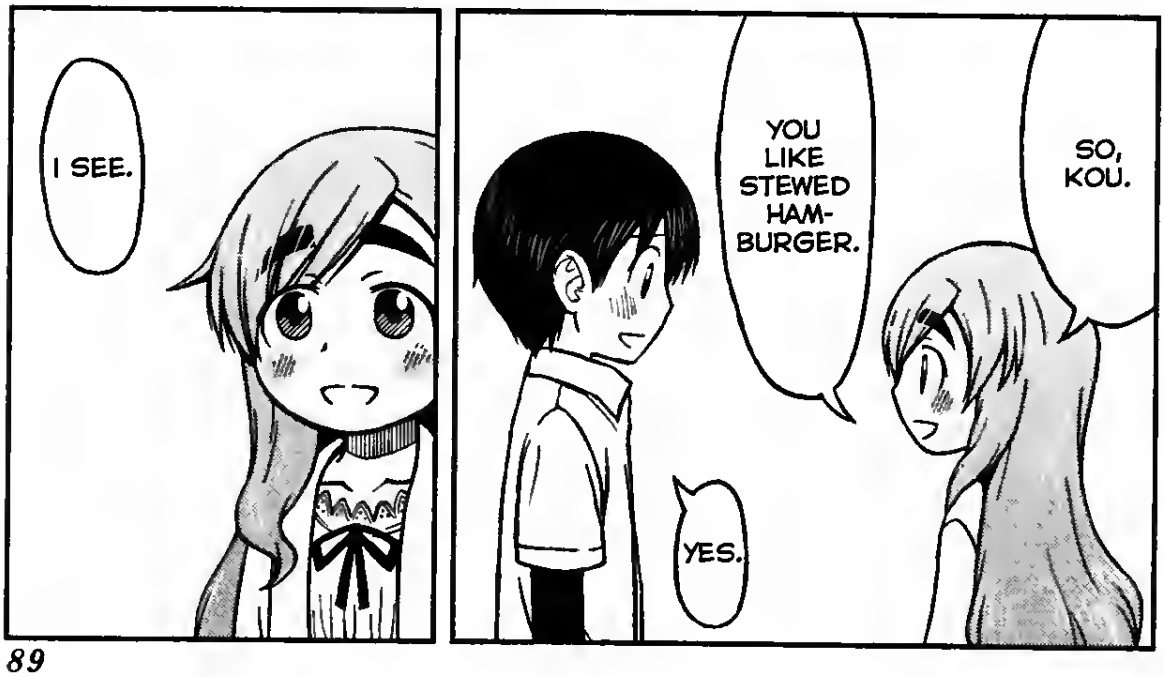
STEWED HAMBURGER-
CAN YOU MAKE IT?
STEWED HAMBURGER?

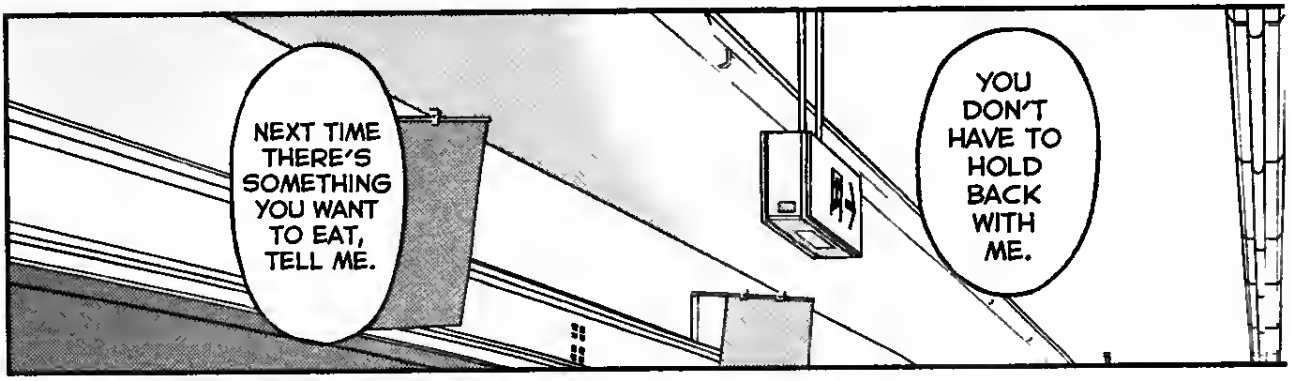

YES, I CAN MAKE IT.
.....
YOU CAN?

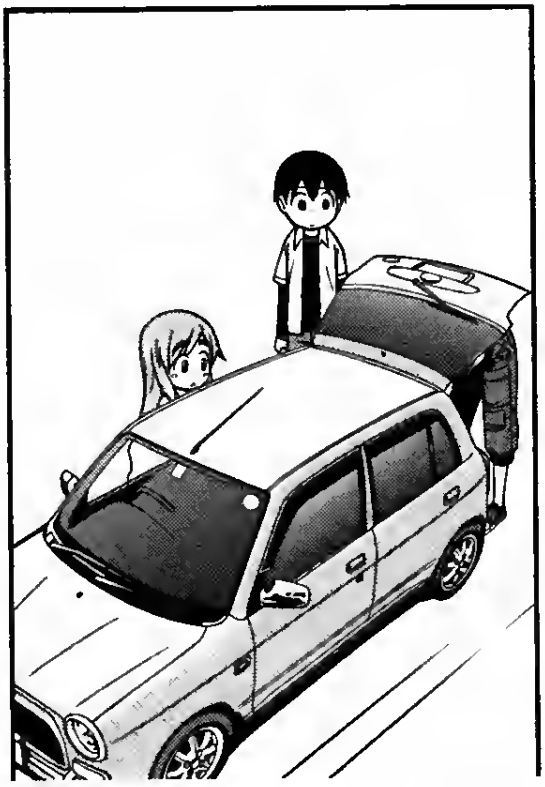

DO YOU WANT TO EAT IT?
.....
YEAH...


AH.
I SUPPOSE YUKO MADE THAT FOR YOU OFTEN?
ERR...
OCCA-SION-ALLY.

BUT, MAKING HAMBURGER SEEMED LIKE A LOT OF TROUBLE
SO I NEVER ONCE MANAGED TO TELL HER THAT I WANTED IT.
HAMBURGER ISN'T THAT MUCH TROUBLE AT ALL.


SO, KOU.
YOU LIKE STEWED HAM-BURGER.
YES.
I SEE.


NEXT TIME THERE'S SOMETHING YOU WANT TO EAT, TELL ME.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK WITH ME.



It went perfectly
You got the cake you wanted?

DINNER'S READY~
OKA~Y

.....
WHAT?

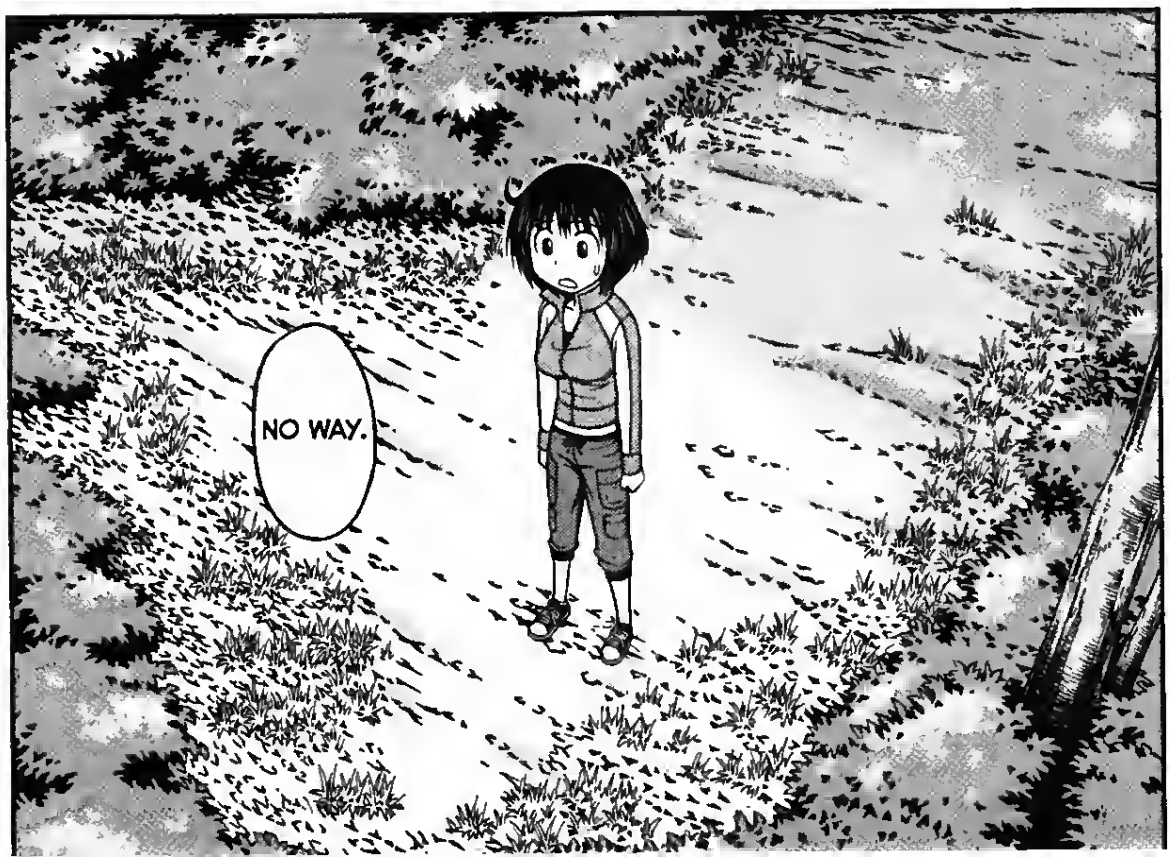
COME TO THINK OF IT, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE HAD SASHIMI.

WAI- ARE YOU KIDDING?!
EVEN THOUGH I HAD GOTTEN COMPLETELY INTO SASHIMI MODE FOR TODAY!
kouta, when did you?!
KOU MADE A REQUEST.
EH? WHY?
HAM-BURG-ER?
What about the sashimi?
ARE YOU TELLING ME TO EAT CAKE FOR DINNER?
That's not the problem here.
YOU HAVE YOUR CAKE, DON'T YOU. YOU'LL BE FINE.
THAT'S NOT GOOD FOR ME AT ALL!
REALLY? THAT'S GOOD~
MOMO, THIS HAMBURGER IS GOOD.

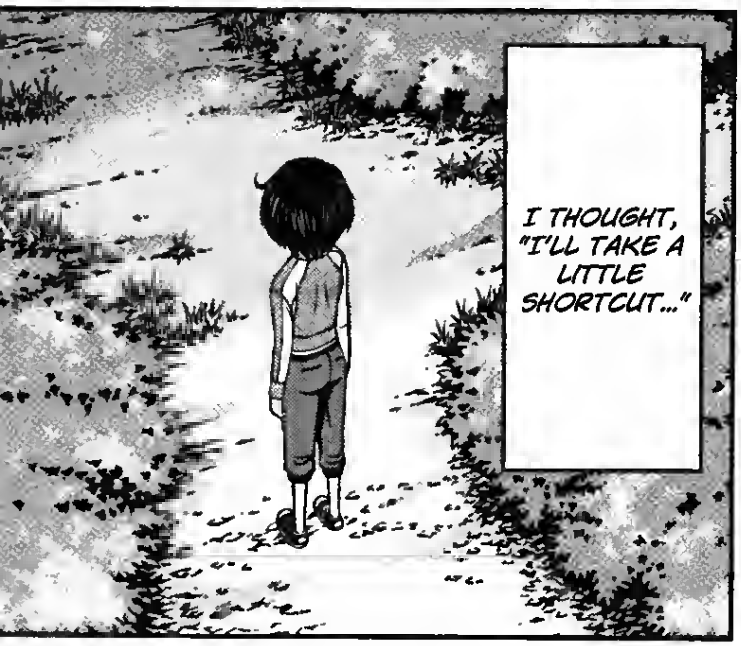
Chapter 5 Shelter From The Rain

EH?

WHAT?


NO WAY.

WHILE ON THE WAY BACK FROM PASSING ON A BULLETIN TO OUR NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBORS (EVEN SAYING THAT, THEY'RE REALLY FAR AWAY)


I THOUGHT, "I'LL TAKE A LITTLE SHORTCUT..."

TAKING A DIFFERENT ROAD FROM USUAL...

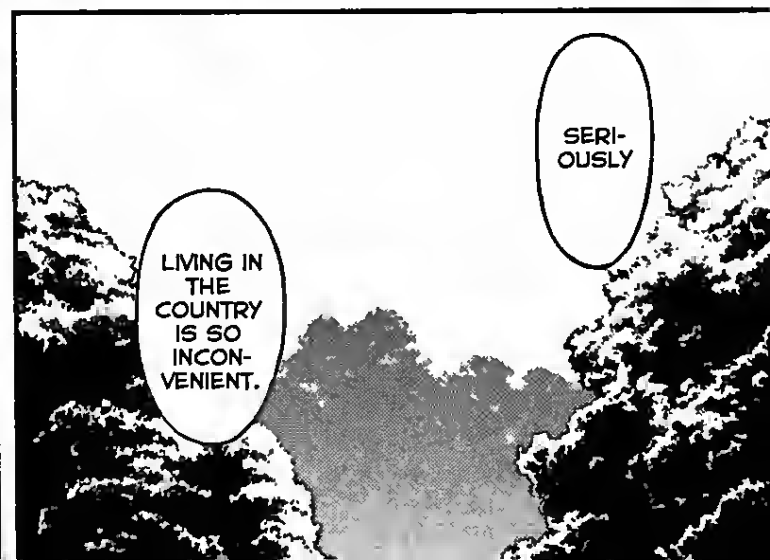
SERIOUSLY?
I GOT LOST.

THAT'S HOW I ENDED UP IN THIS SITUATION.
……
I REALLY SCREWED UP.

OH WELL.
ﾊｯｸｼｮﾝ

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M ABLE TO USE MY CELL-PHONE'S NAVIGATOR.
……

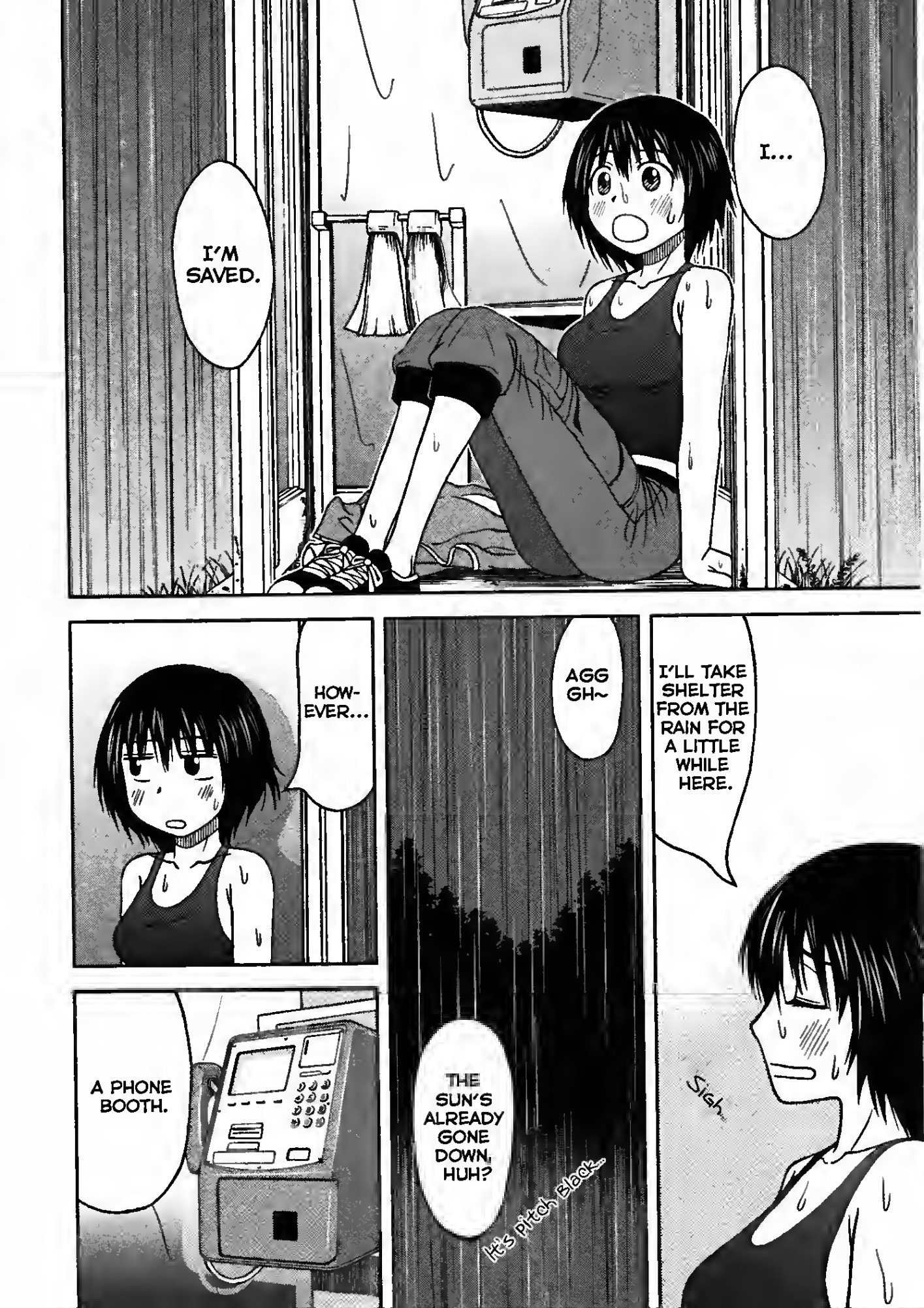
NATUR-ALLY
ｶﾁｬ

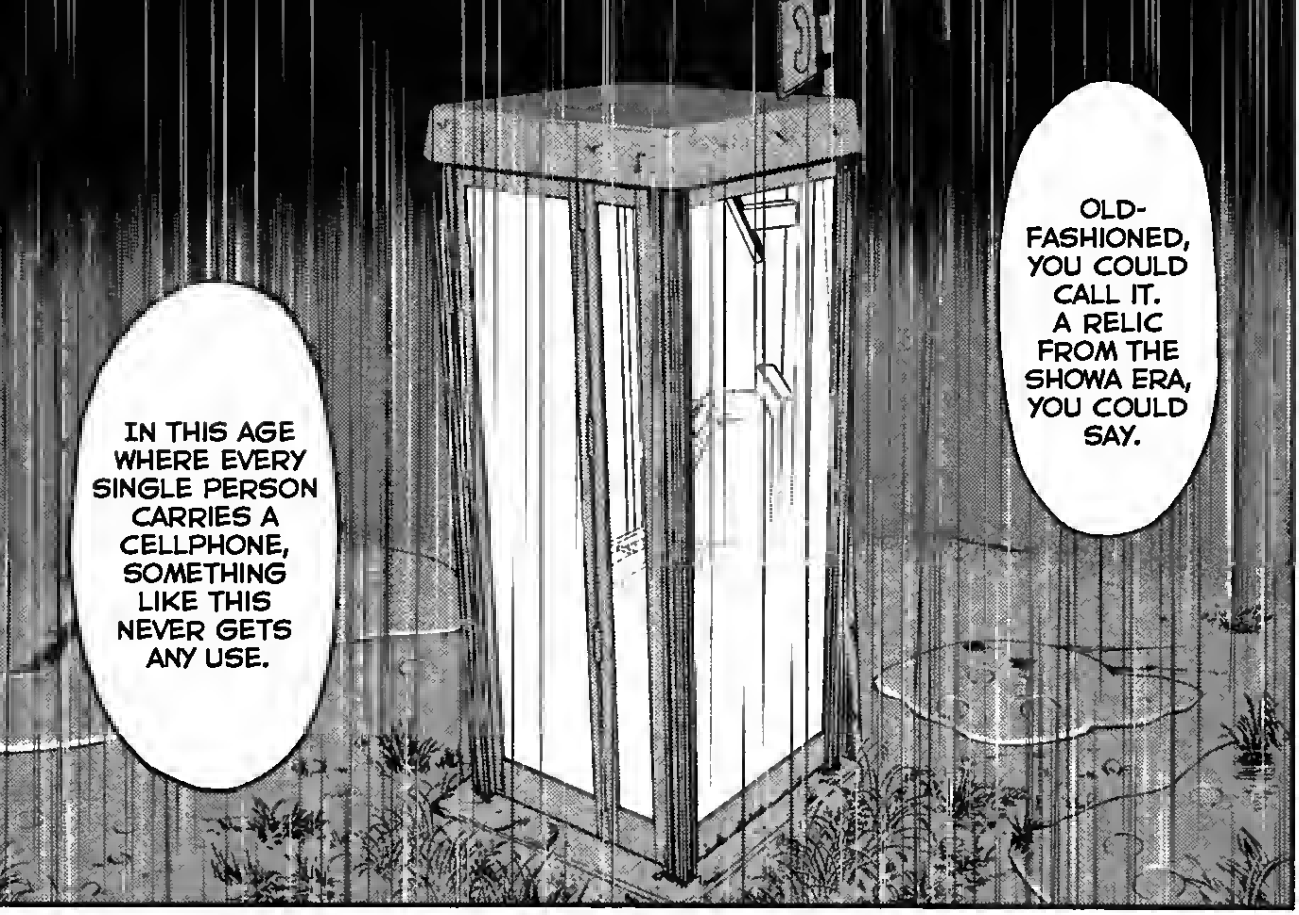

SERI-OUSLY
LIVING IN THE COUNTRY IS SO INCON-VENIENT.

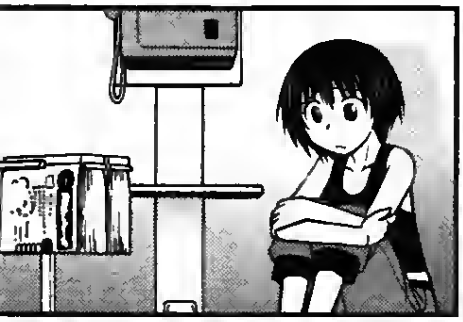
I SHOULD MANAGE SOMEHOW.
THAT WAS TOO OPTIMISTIC...
HOW STRANGE...
THIS SHOULD BE THE AREA AROUND OUR HOUSE.
I WALK AND WALK, BUT I DON'T FEEL I'M GETTING ANY CLOSER TO HOME.
HUH?

HUU UUU UUH?!
IT STARTED TO RAIN.
WHA- WHA-
THIS IS REA~LLY BAD, WHAT SHOULD I DO~
AND THERE'S NOTHING AT ALL
THAT WILL SERVE AS ANY SORT OF SHELTER!
OVER THERE.

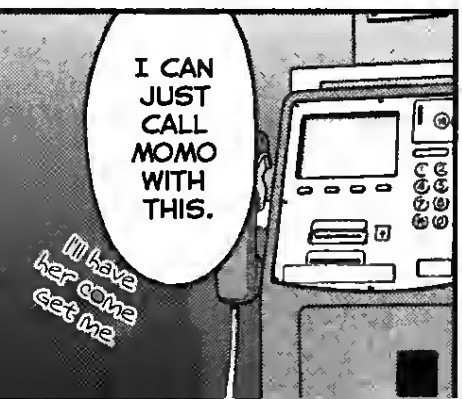
THERE'S A PHONE BOOTH.

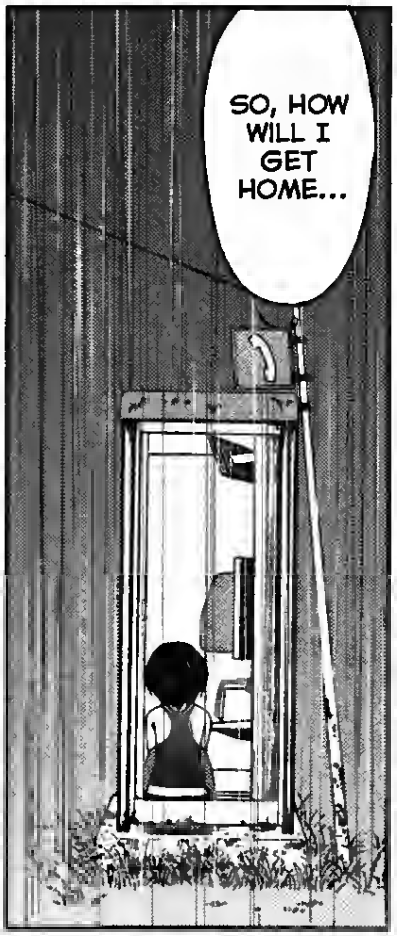

I...
I'M SAVED.
I'LL TAKE SHELTER FROM THE RAIN FOR A LITTLE WHILE HERE.
Sigh...
AGG GH~
THE SUN'S ALREADY GONE DOWN, HUH?
It's pitch black...
HOW-EVER...
A PHONE BOOTH.


IN THIS AGE WHERE EVERY SINGLE PERSON CARRIES A CELLPHONE, SOMETHING LIKE THIS NEVER GETS ANY USE.
OLD-FASHIONED, YOU COULD CALL IT. A RELIC FROM THE SHOWA ERA, YOU COULD SAY.



AH.

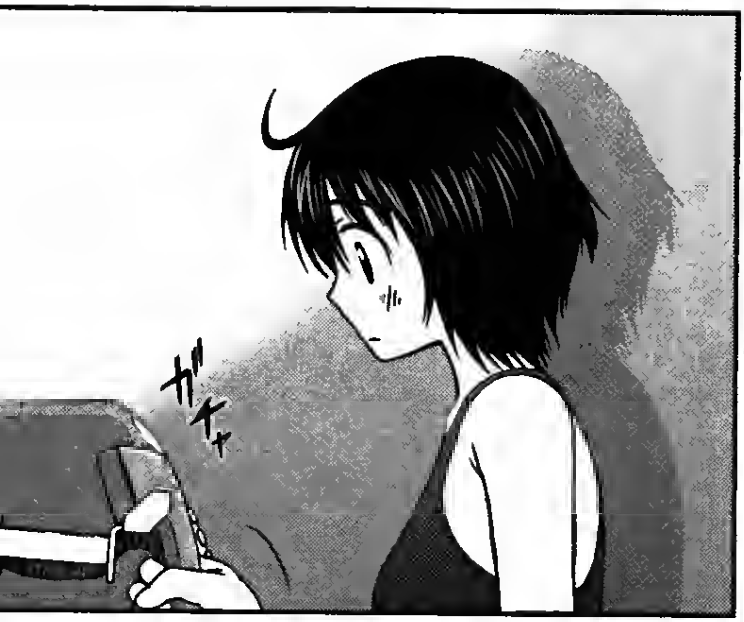

I CAN JUST CALL MOMO WITH THIS.
I'll have her come get me.


SO, HOW WILL I GET HOME...

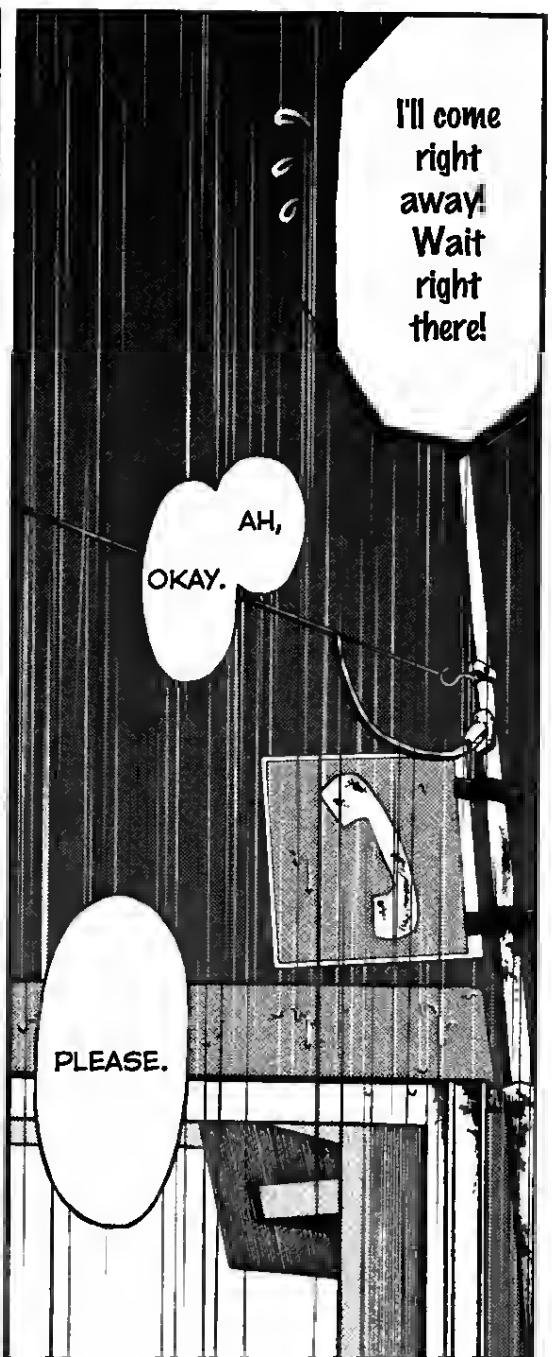
WELL, ANYWA~Y, I SURVIVED.
Lucky~♪

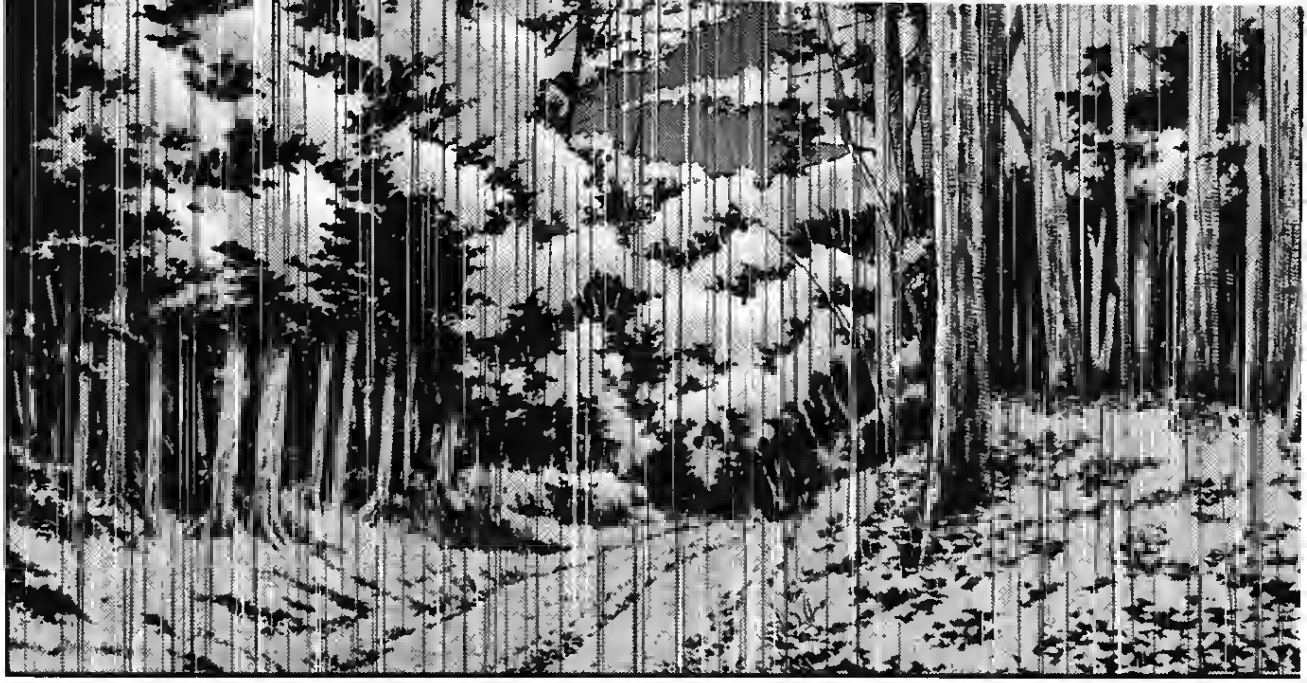
It's Himari.
HELLO, NONOHARA SPEAKING.
プルルルルル…
Um...
WHERE ARE YOU CALLING FROM?
HIMARI?
IF YOU COULD SPARE THE EFFORT TO COME GET ME...
I DON'T KNOW THE WAY HOME, SO
UM... THAT IS...
Yes, I do.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS, MOMO?
I'M CALLING FROM A PHONE BOOTH THAT'S PROBABLY SOMEWHERE NEAR OUR HOUSE.

ビクッ
Oh my god!


ガチャ

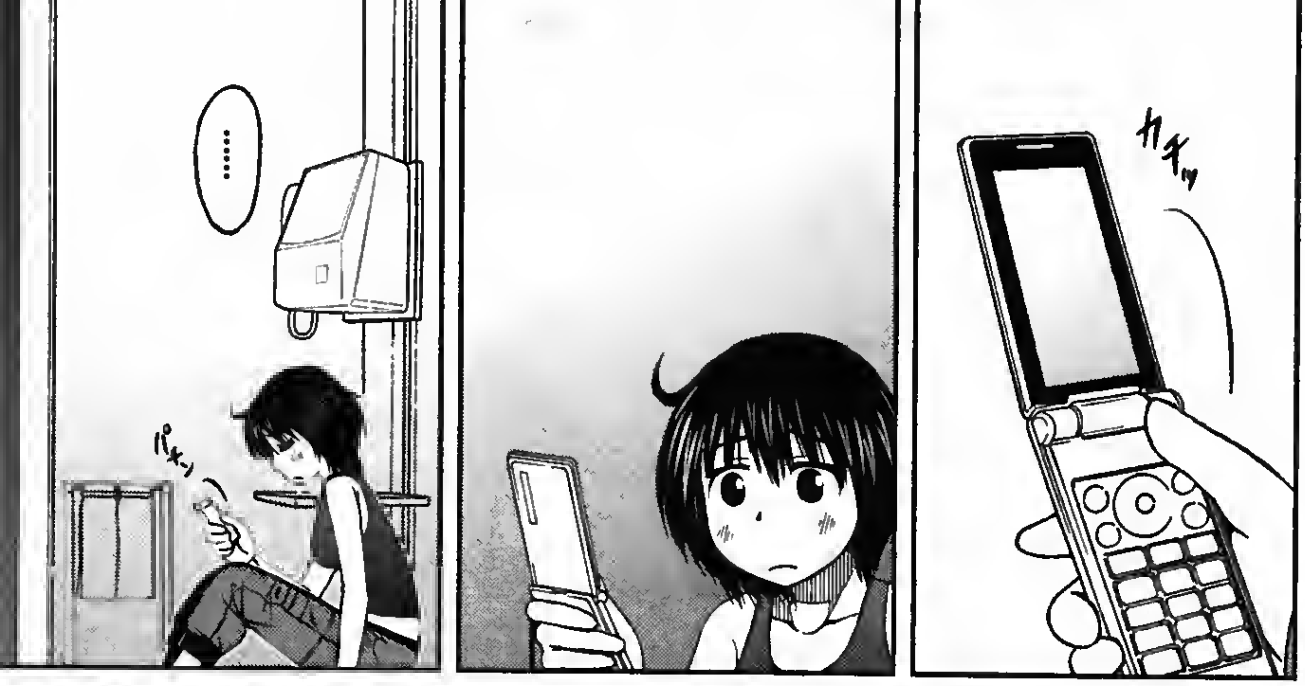
.....
THANK GOOD-NESS.


I'll come right away! Wait right there!
AH, OKAY.
PLEASE.

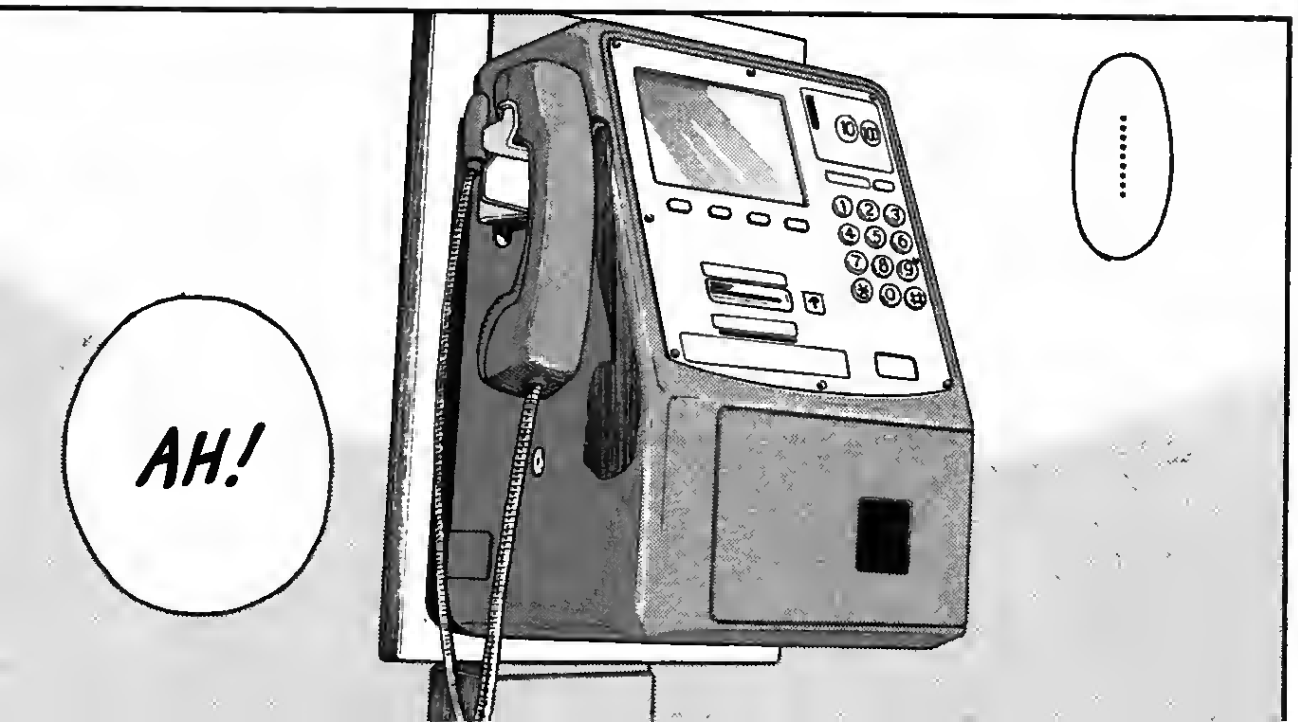


NOTHING BUT THE SOUND OF THE RAIN
MOMO...
SHE'LL COME GET ME QUICKLY, WON'T SHE?
IT FEELS QUIETER THAN USUAL.
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE THE RAIN IS DROWNING OUT ANY OTHER SOFT SOUNDS, BUT...

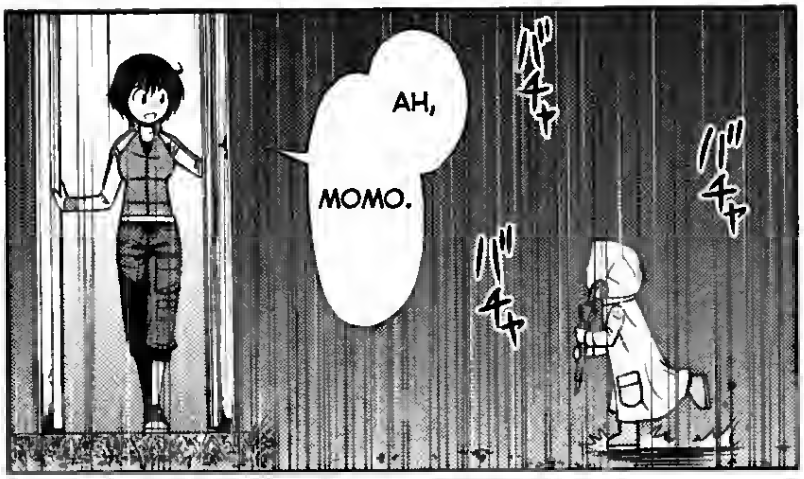
ぞくっ
SUDDENLY, I'VE GOTTEN ANXIOUS.
IT'S TOO QUIET.
I DON'T KNOW IT THAT WELL.
THE FEELING OF LONE-LINESS.
RIGHT NOW, IT FEELS LIKE I'M ALONE IN THE WORLD.



IF I COULD USE MY CELL-PHONE AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
I'D MAIL A FRIEND, OR TALK WITH THEM.
I'D BE ABLE TO ESCAPE THIS ANXIETY.


.....
AH!

PHONE BOOTHS ARE SO COOL!!
Hello, Akki~?
It's me, it's me.


AH,
MOMO.

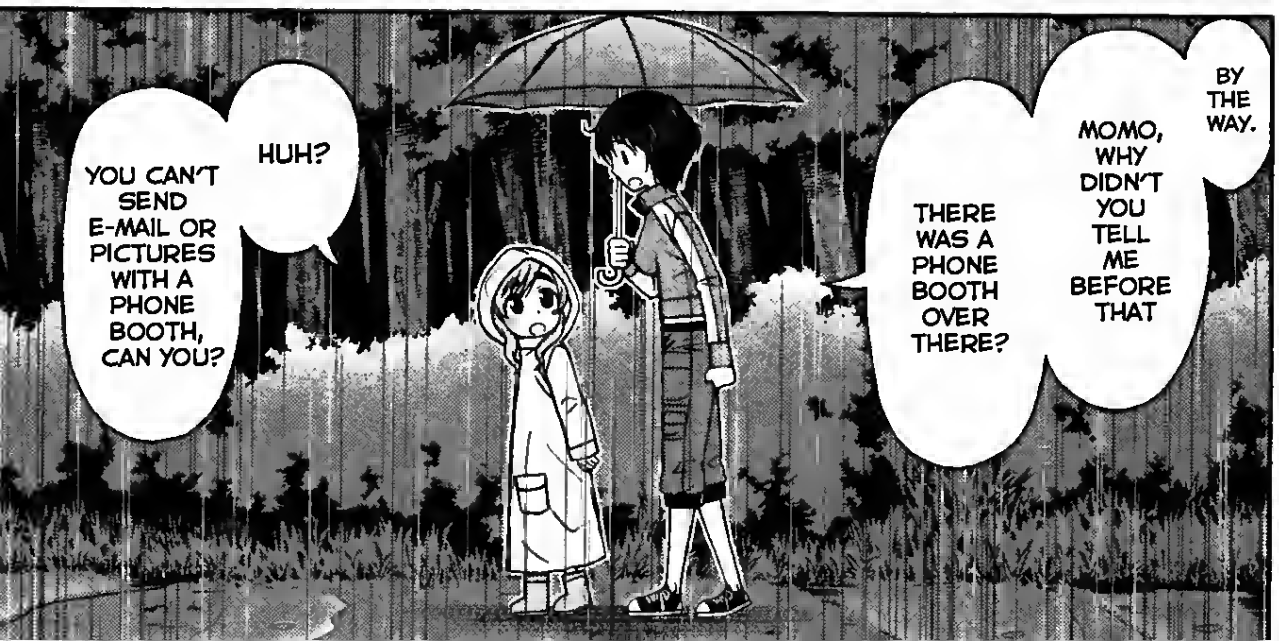
HIMARIII!

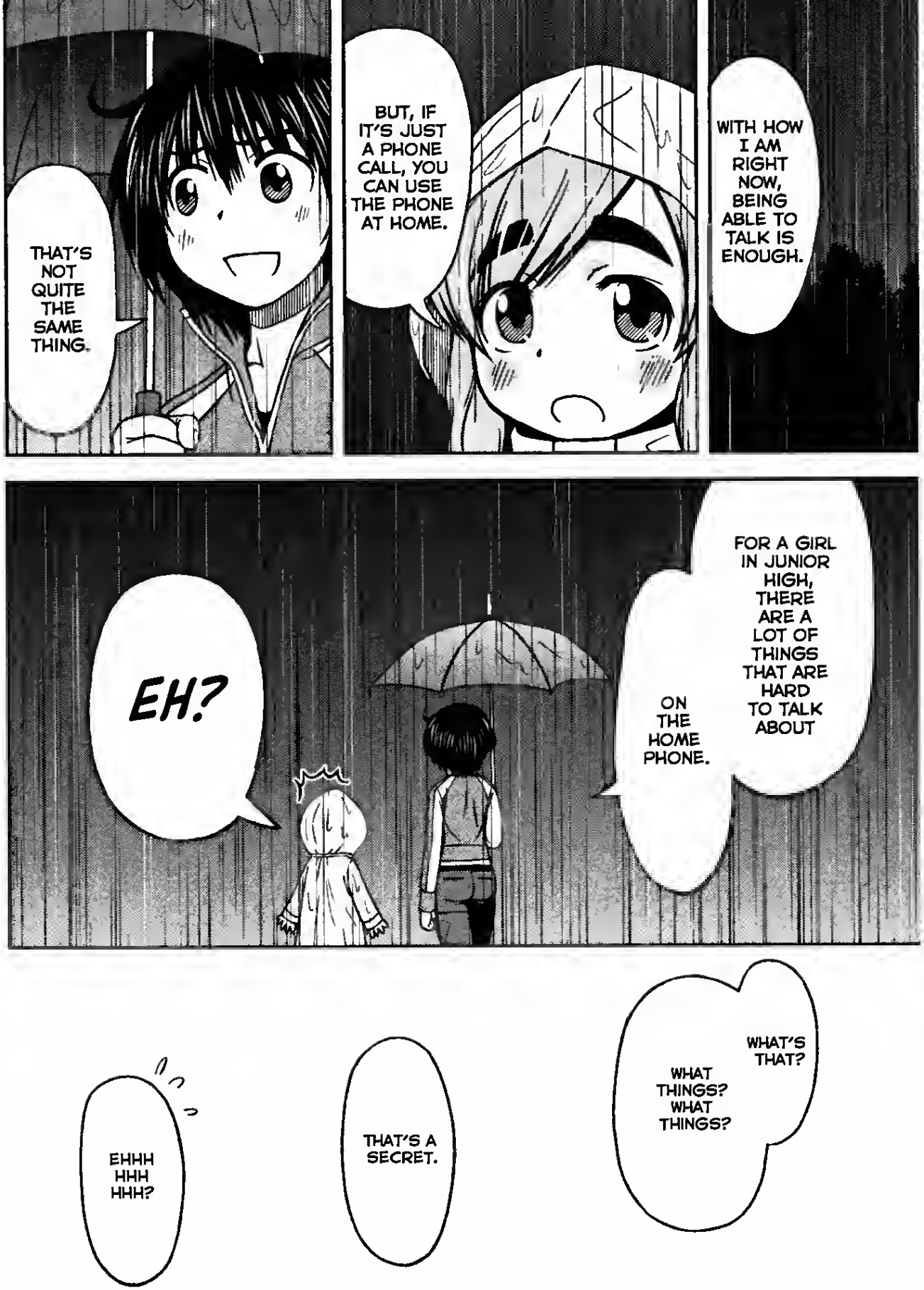
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

SORRY I'M LATE.

I'M FINE.

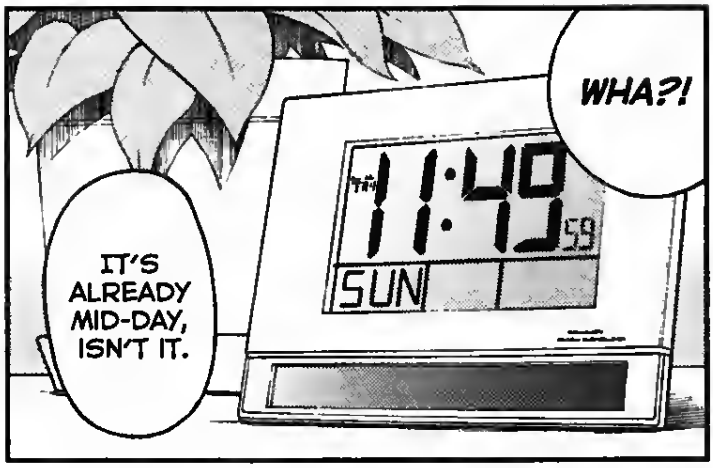
MOMO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING TO GET ME.
NO, NO.
EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND YET, I ASKED YOU TO RUN AN ERRAND. I'M SORRY, HIMARI.


BY THE WAY.
MOMO, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME BEFORE THAT THERE WAS A PHONE BOOTH OVER THERE?
HUH?
YOU CAN'T SEND E-MAIL OR PICTURES WITH A PHONE BOOTH, CAN YOU?


WITH HOW I AM RIGHT NOW, BEING ABLE TO TALK IS ENOUGH.
BUT, IF IT'S JUST A PHONE CALL, YOU CAN USE THE PHONE AT HOME.
THAT'S NOT QUITE THE SAME THING.
FOR A GIRL IN JUNIOR HIGH, THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS THAT ARE HARD TO TALK ABOUT ON THE HOME PHONE.
EH?
WHAT'S THAT?
WHAT THINGS? WHAT THINGS?
THAT'S A SECRET.
EHHH HHH HHH?

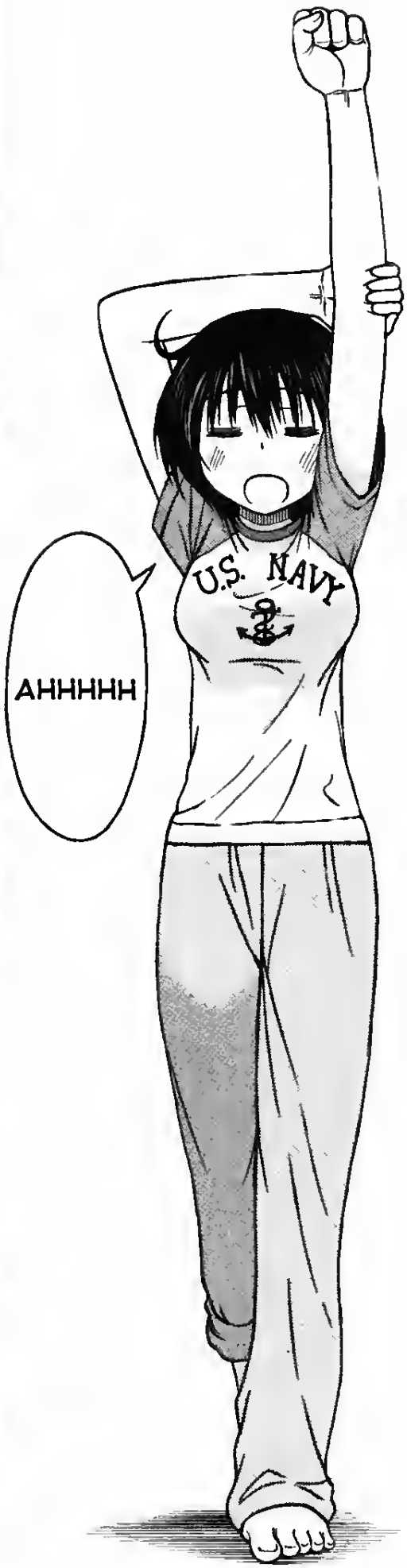
Chapter 6 Blue Sky Barbershop

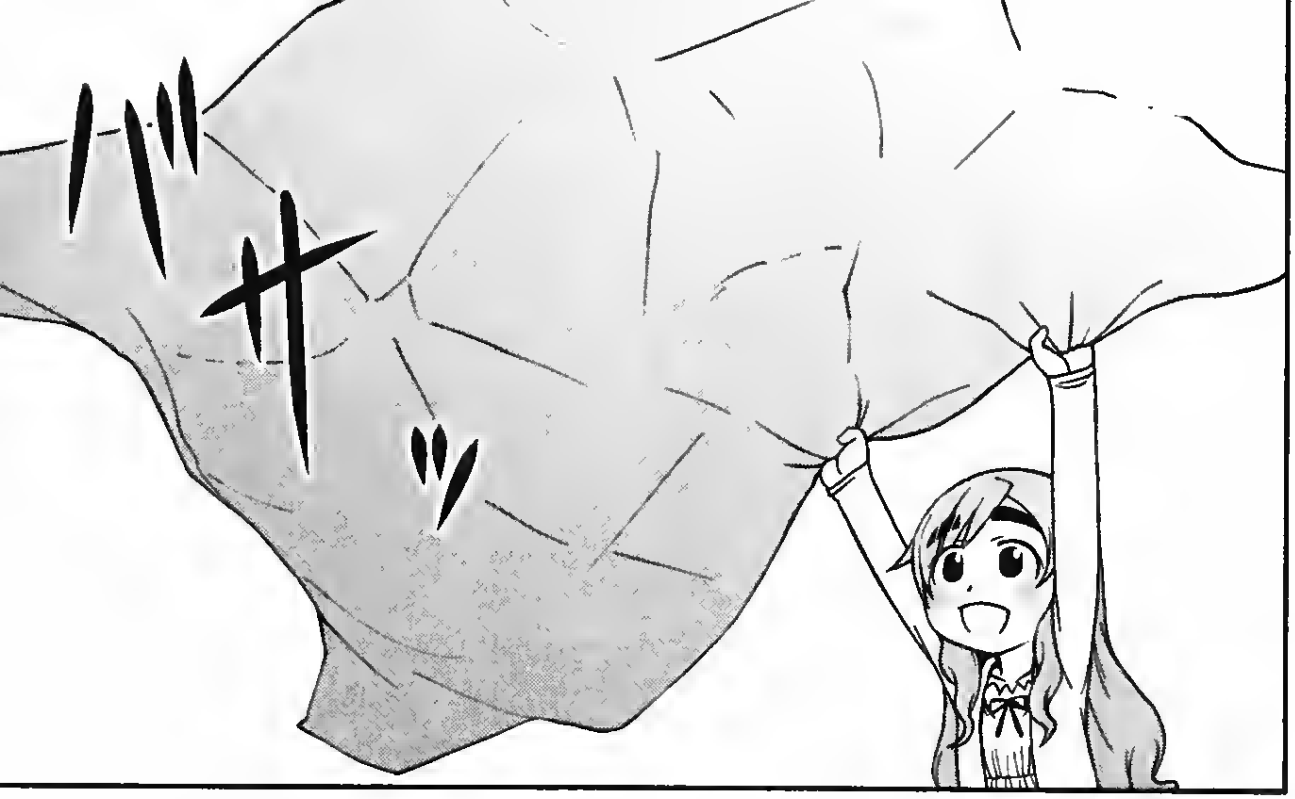
I SLEPT WELL.

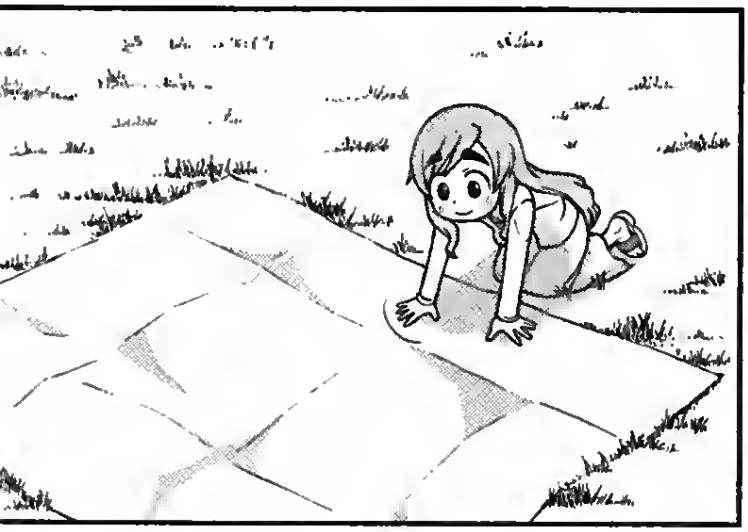

WHA?!
IT'S ALREADY MID-DAY, ISN'T IT.
11:49
59
SUN

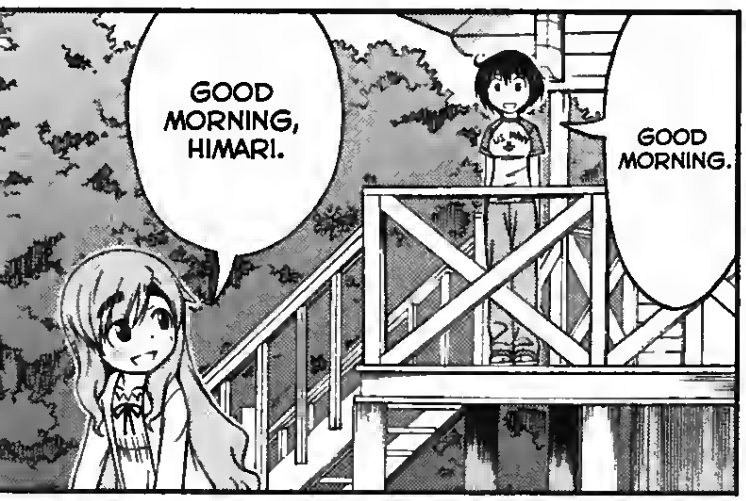
MOMO!
I WONDER WHERE SHE'S GONE.

HM?
THERE'S NO ONE AROUND.

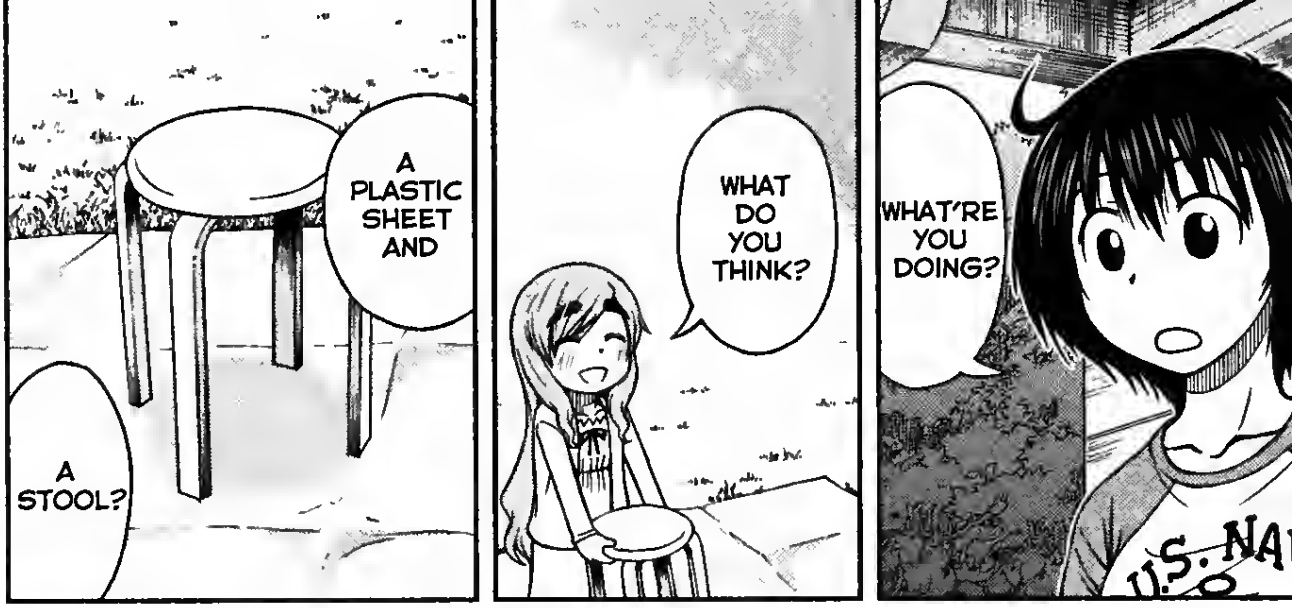

AHHHHH
U.S. NAVY






GOOD MORNING, HIMARI.
GOOD MORNING.

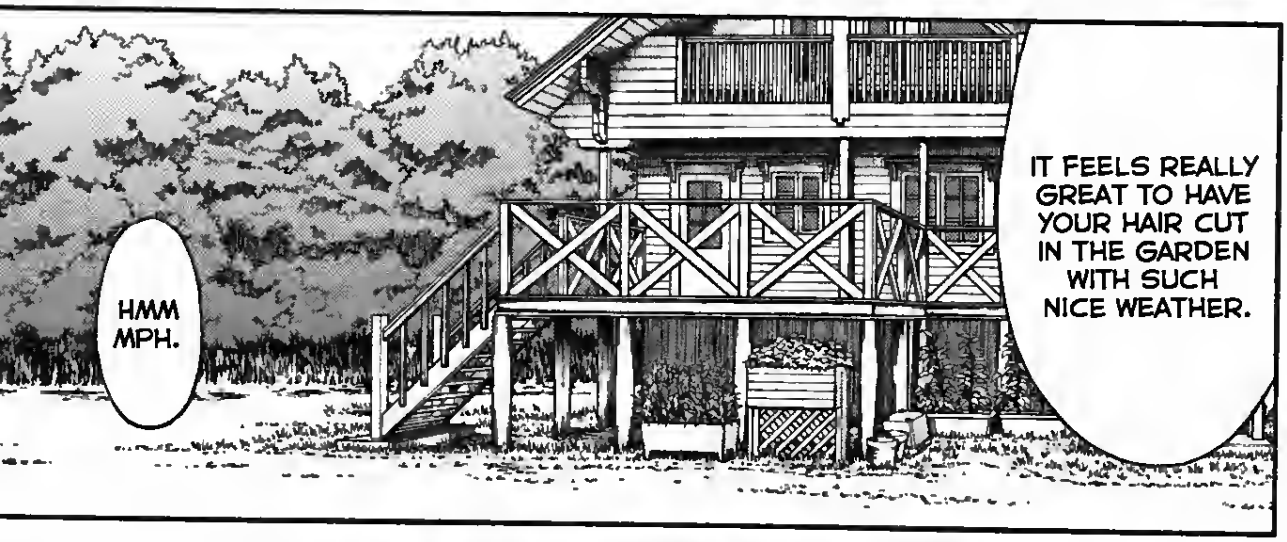
U.S. NAVY

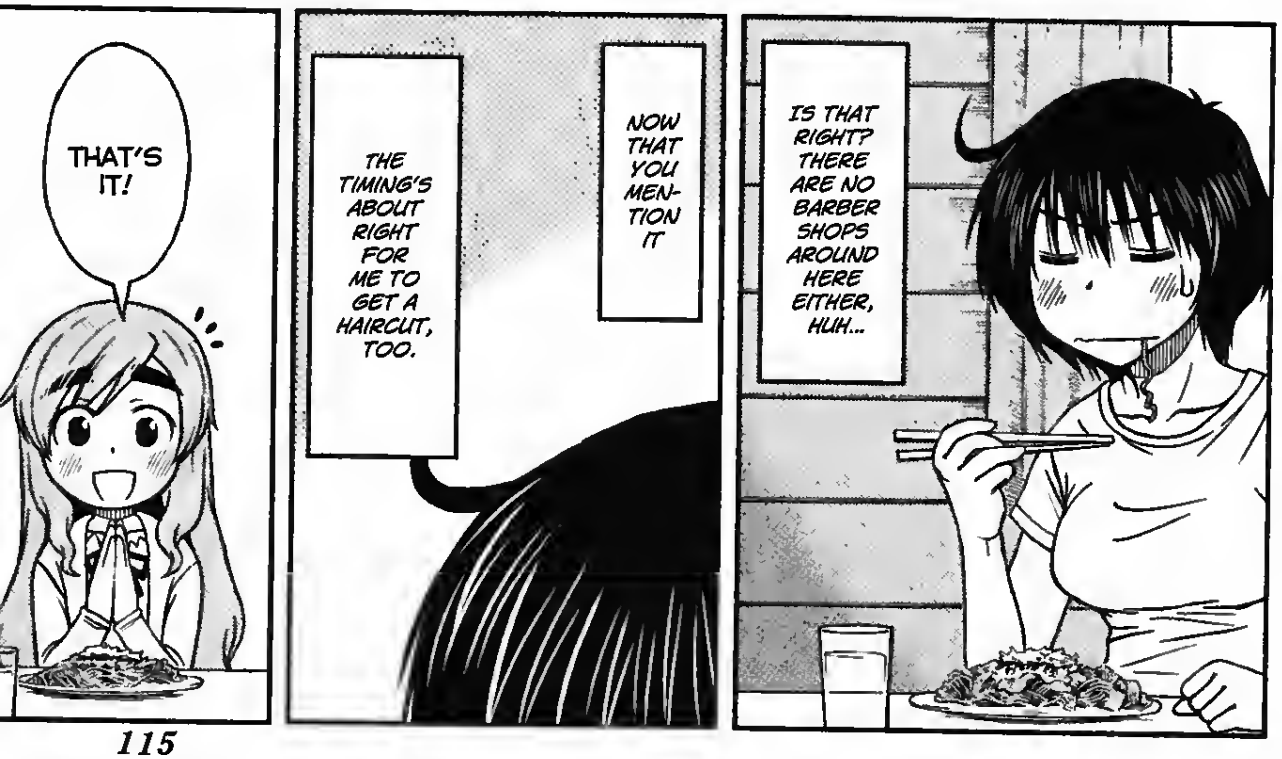

A STOOL?
A PLASTIC SHEET AND
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

UFU FU,
I'LL TELL YOU WHEN I'M DONE SETTING UP.
I DON'T HAVE ANY CLUE.
?

BARBER SHOP?
A BLUE SKY

KOU'S HAIR?
AH, YOUR BANGS HAVE GOTTEN LONG, HAVEN'T THEY.
It hurts when they get in my eyes
I THOUGHT I'D CUT KOU'S HAIR IN THE GARDEN.
YES.


HMM MPH.
IT FEELS REALLY GREAT TO HAVE YOUR HAIR CUT IN THE GARDEN WITH SUCH NICE WEATHER.

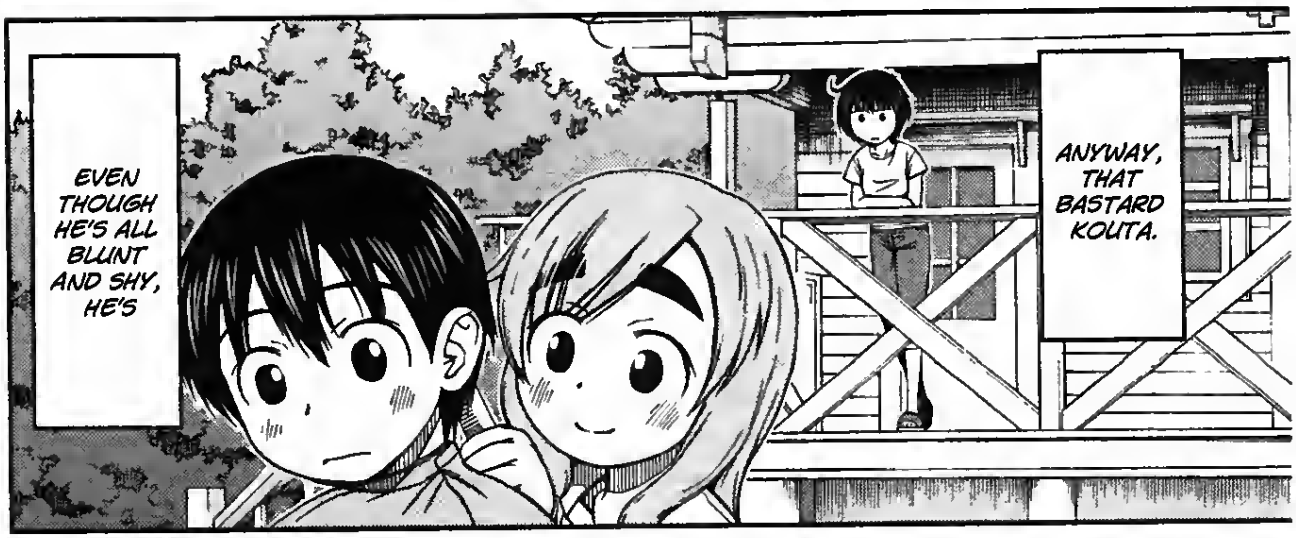

THAT'S IT!
THE TIMING'S ABOUT RIGHT FOR ME TO GET A HAIRCUT, TOO.
NOW THAT YOU MEN-TION IT
IS THAT RIGHT? THERE ARE NO BARBER SHOPS AROUND HERE EITHER, HUH...

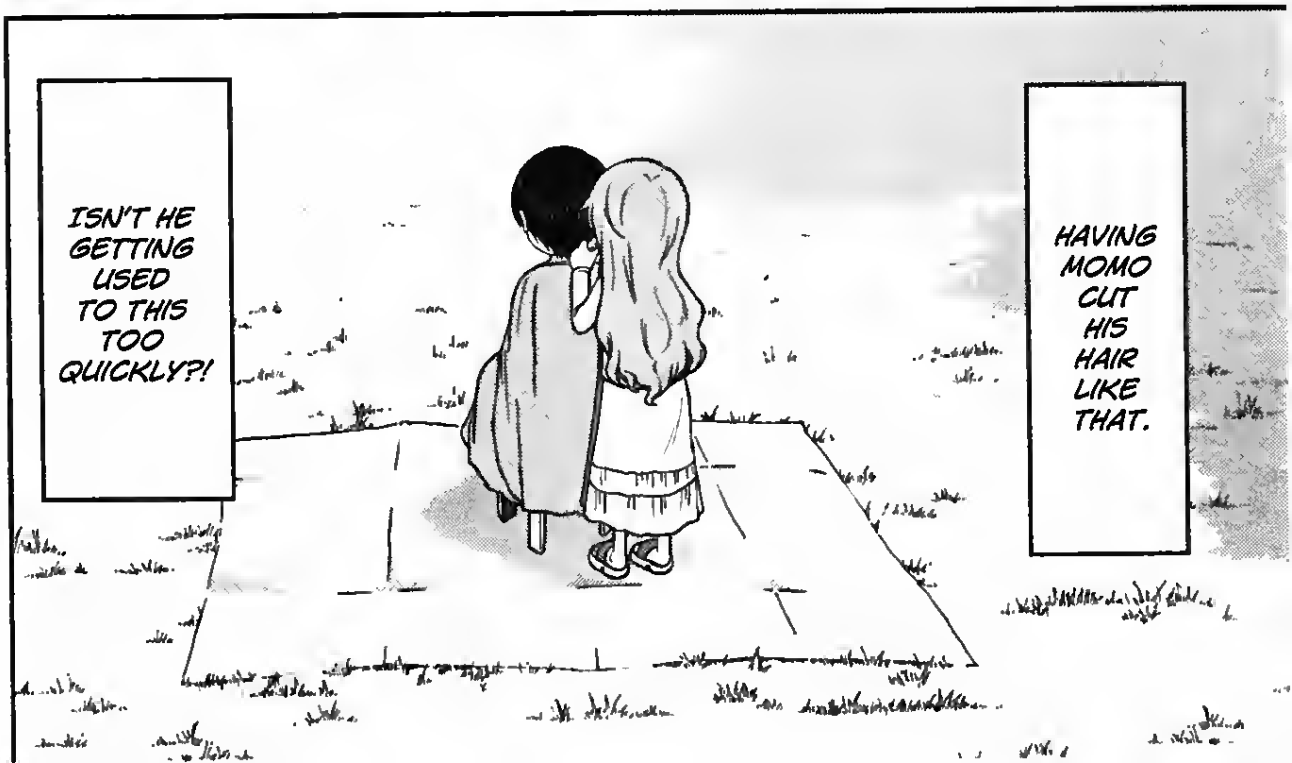
HIMA-
I'M FINE, THANK YOU.

I HADN'T EVEN SAID ANYTHING YE~T!
EHHH HHHH?!

A BLUE SKY BARBER SHOP.
HUH...

WHERE DO THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE AROUND HERE GET THEIR HAIRCUTS?
ALTHOUGH, PUTTING ASIDE THE BARBER SHOP, THERE'S NOT A SINGLE SHOP AROUND HERE AT ALL.
A BARBER SHOP...

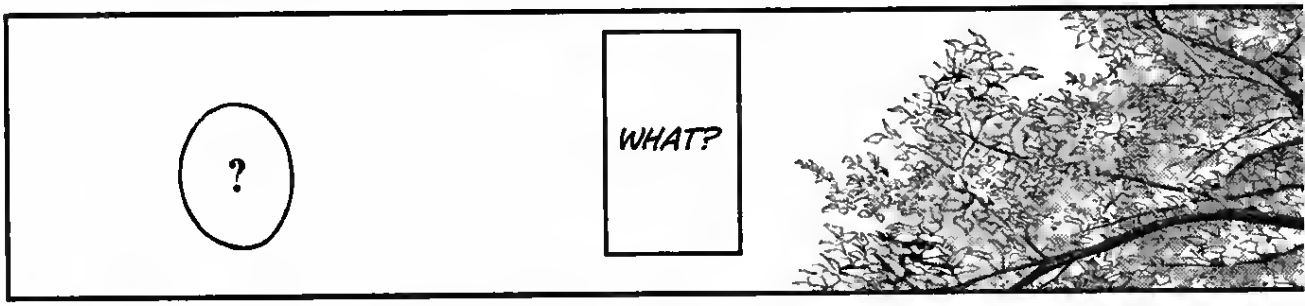

EVEN THOUGH HE'S ALL BLUNT AND SHY, HE'S
ANYWAY, THAT BASTARD KOUTA.


ISN'T HE GETTING USED TO THIS TOO QUICKLY?!
HAVING MOMO CUT HIS HAIR LIKE THAT.

MOMO, YOU'RE A GOOD BARBER.
n-not at all
YOU DO?
YES, I FEEL GOOD.
WELL?
I-
I SAID I'M FINE.
YOU SHOULD GET A HAIRCUT TOO, SIS.

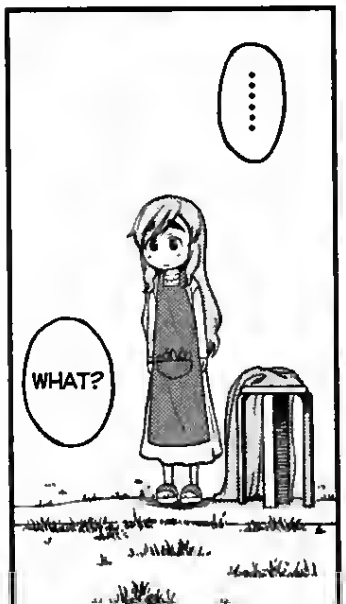
SIS, WE NEED TO TALK.

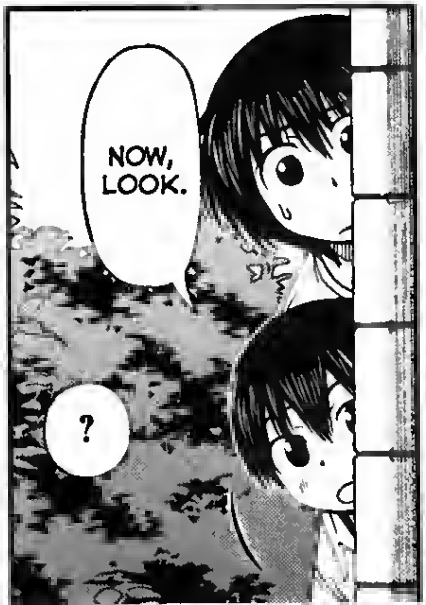
THE SECRET SIGNS KOUTA AND I CAME UP WITH.
THAT'S...

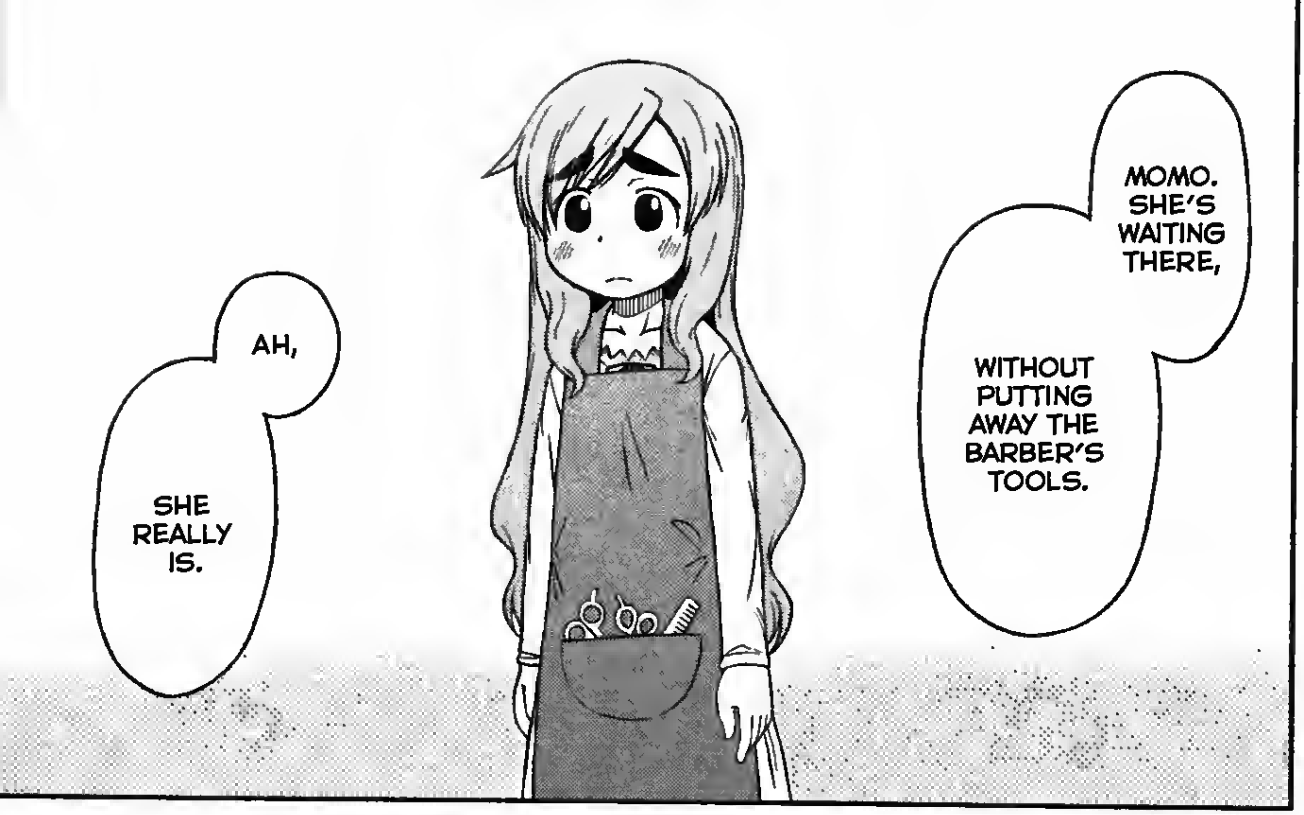

?
WHAT?

WHY?
I TOLD YOU, YOU SHOULD GET A HAIRCUT FROM MOMO, TOO.

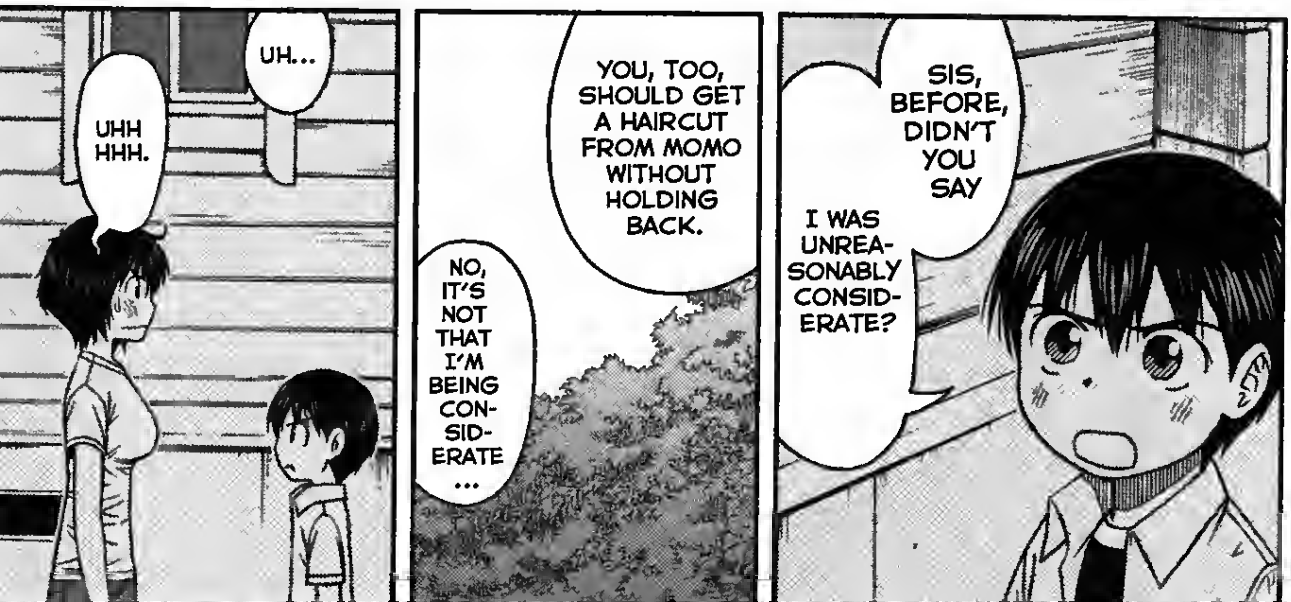
SIS, COME HERE.
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU ON ABOUT?

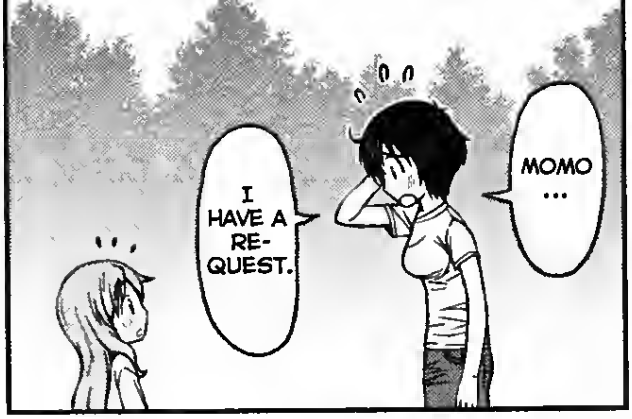

.....
WHAT?


NOW, LOOK.
?


MOMO. SHE'S WAITING THERE,
WITHOUT PUTTING AWAY THE BARBER'S TOOLS.
AH,
SHE REALLY IS.

SEE.
SHE'S WAITING THERE FOR YOU TO COME SAYING, "I WANT A HAIRCUT."
NO... AFTER ALL, GETTING MOMO TO CUT MY HAIR IS-


SIS, BEFORE, DIDN'T YOU SAY I WAS UNREASONABLY CONSIDERATE?
YOU, TOO, SHOULD GET A HAIRCUT FROM MOMO WITHOUT HOLDING BACK.
NO, IT'S NOT THAT I'M BEING CONSIDERATE ...
UH...
UHH HHH.

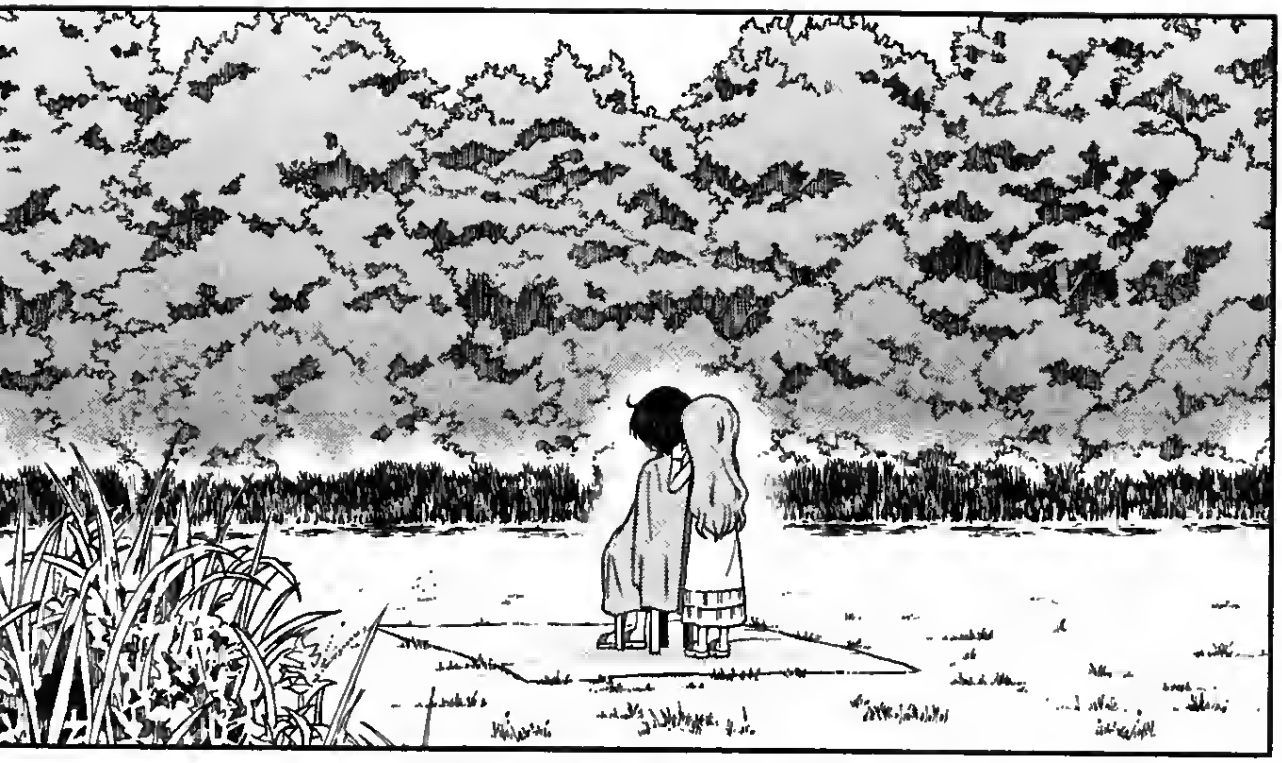

MOMO ...
I HAVE A RE-QUEST.

AL-
ALRIGHT ALREADY!

WOULD YOU STILL LIKE TO CUT MY HAIR?

...
I THINK I'D LIKE A HAIRCUT AFTER ALL.

YES,
THAT'S FINE.



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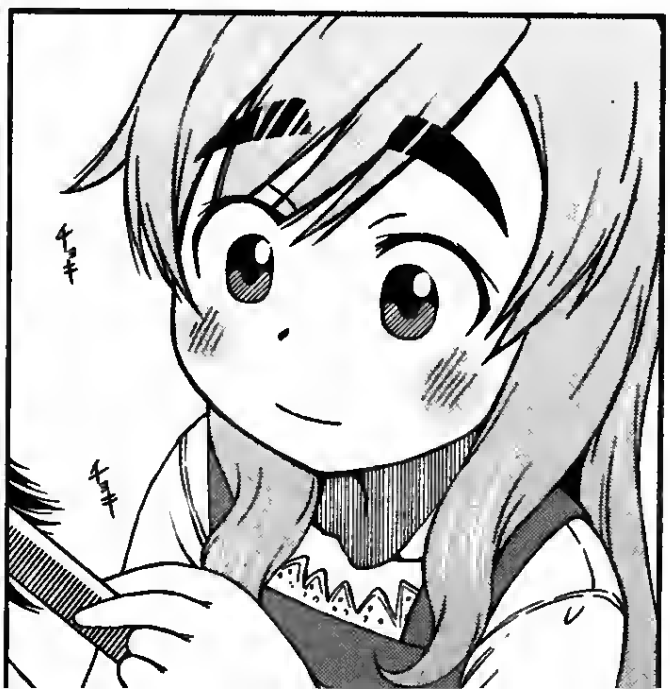
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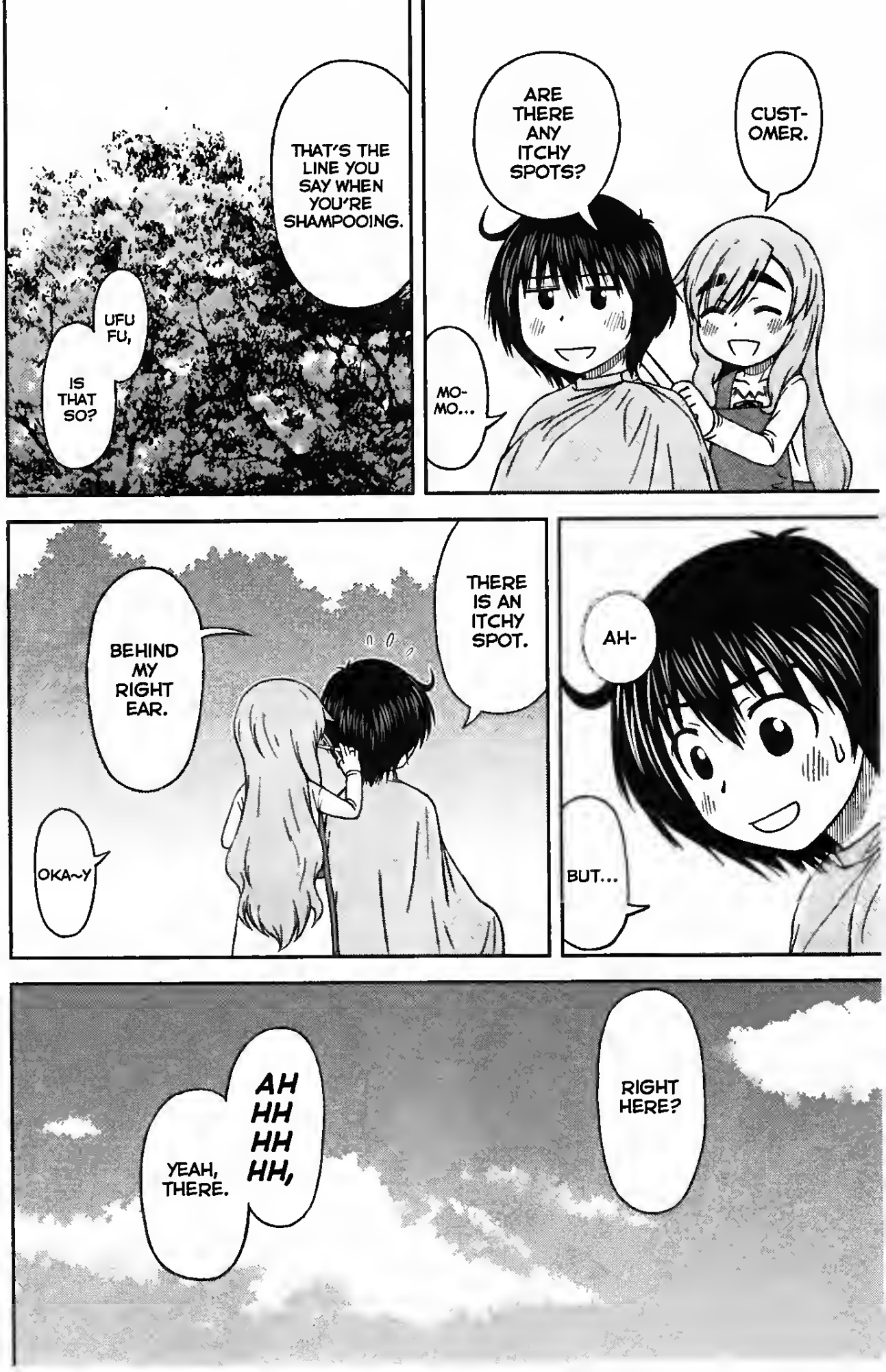
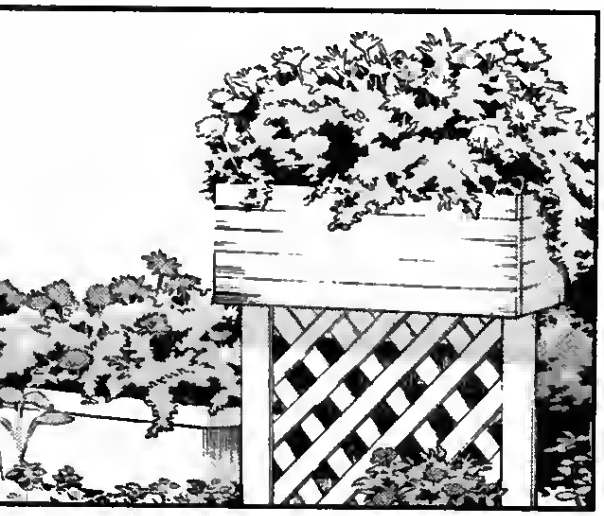
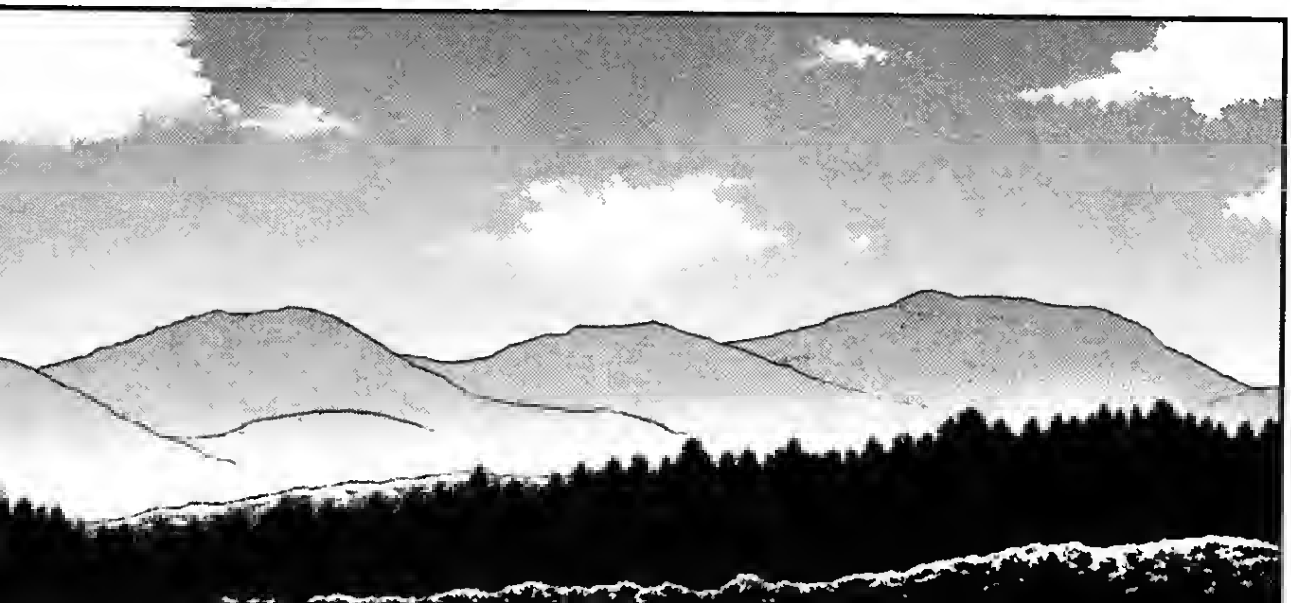
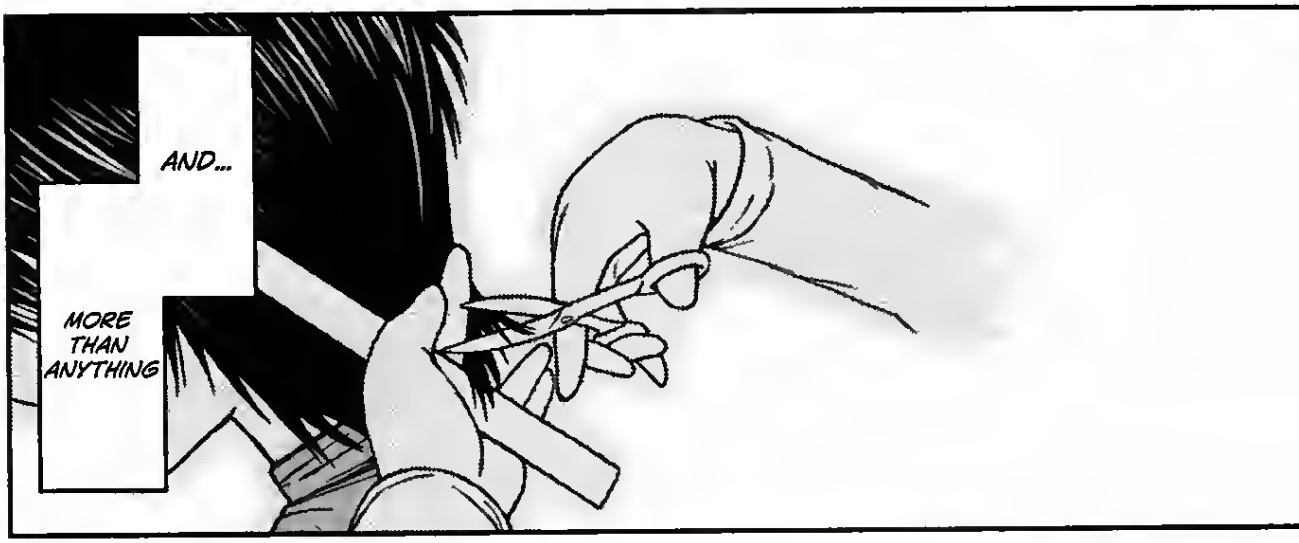

THAT'S THE LINE YOU SAY WHEN YOU'RE SHAMPOOING.
UFU FU, IS THAT SO?
CUST-OMER.
ARE THERE ANY ITCHY SPOTS?
MO-MO...
THERE IS AN ITCHY SPOT.
BEHIND MY RIGHT EAR.
OKA~Y
AH-
BUT...
RIGHT HERE?
AH HH HH HH,
YEAH, THERE.



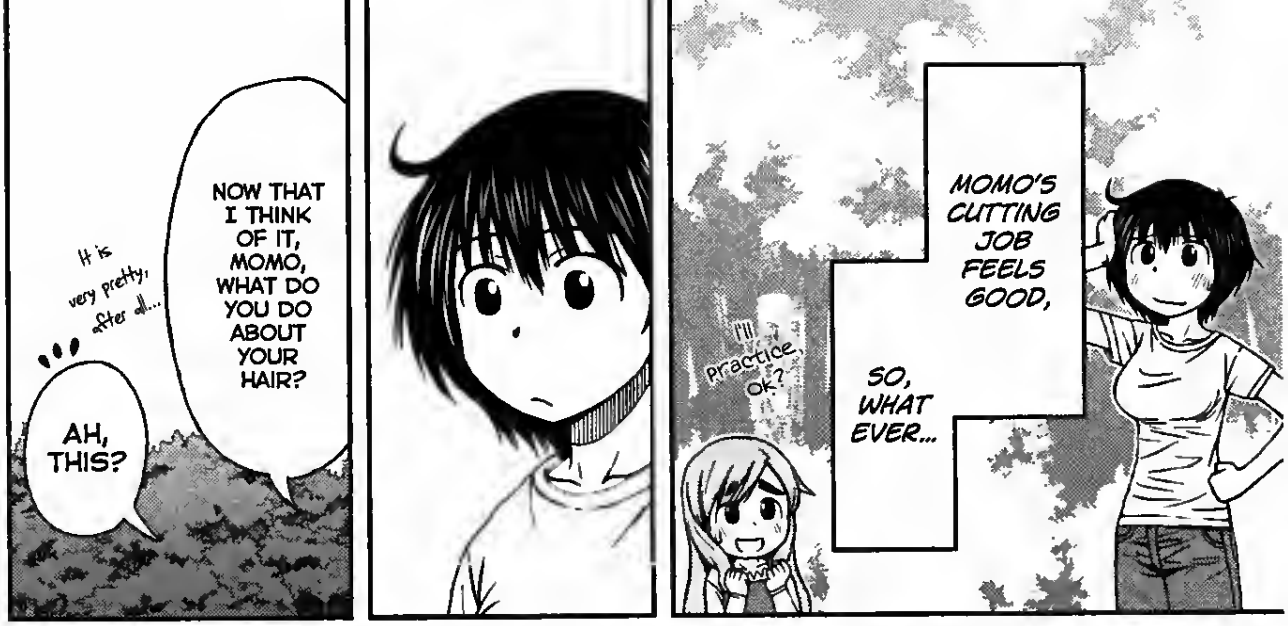


THE WIND FEELS GOOD.
THE SUNSHINE FEELS GOOD.


AND...
MORE THAN ANYTHING

THE TOUCH OF MOMO'S HANDS
FEELS GOOD.

NICE...
THIS IS
I-I'll try hard next time, so-
UH-HUH...
-BUT.
I-I'm very sorry.
WHY IS THE QUALITY SO MUCH DIFFERENT FROM KOUTA'S?
I was clumsy...
.....


NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, MOMO, WHAT DO YOU DO ABOUT YOUR HAIR?
It is very pretty, after all...
AH, THIS?
MOMO'S CUTTING JOB FEELS GOOD,
SO, WHAT EVER...
I'll practice, ok?

THERE'S A REAAALLY GOOD HAIRDRESSER THAT WORKS THERE.
I ALWAYS GET IT CUT AT THE BEAUTY SHOP NEXT TO HARUKAWA SUPER MARKET.
Someone who's been in a magazine, even.

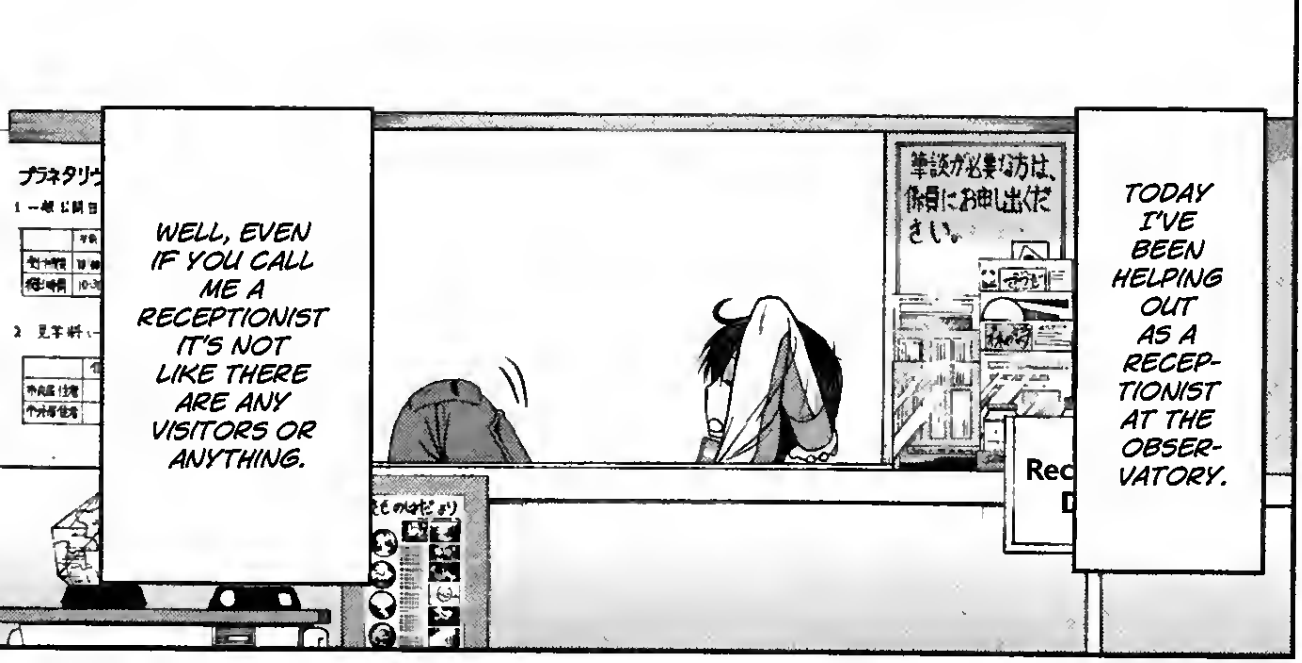
EH,
WAI-
WHAT THE HECK?!
JUST YOU, MOMO? THAT'S UNFAIR!!
EH-
EH HH HH HH?
I'm very sorry

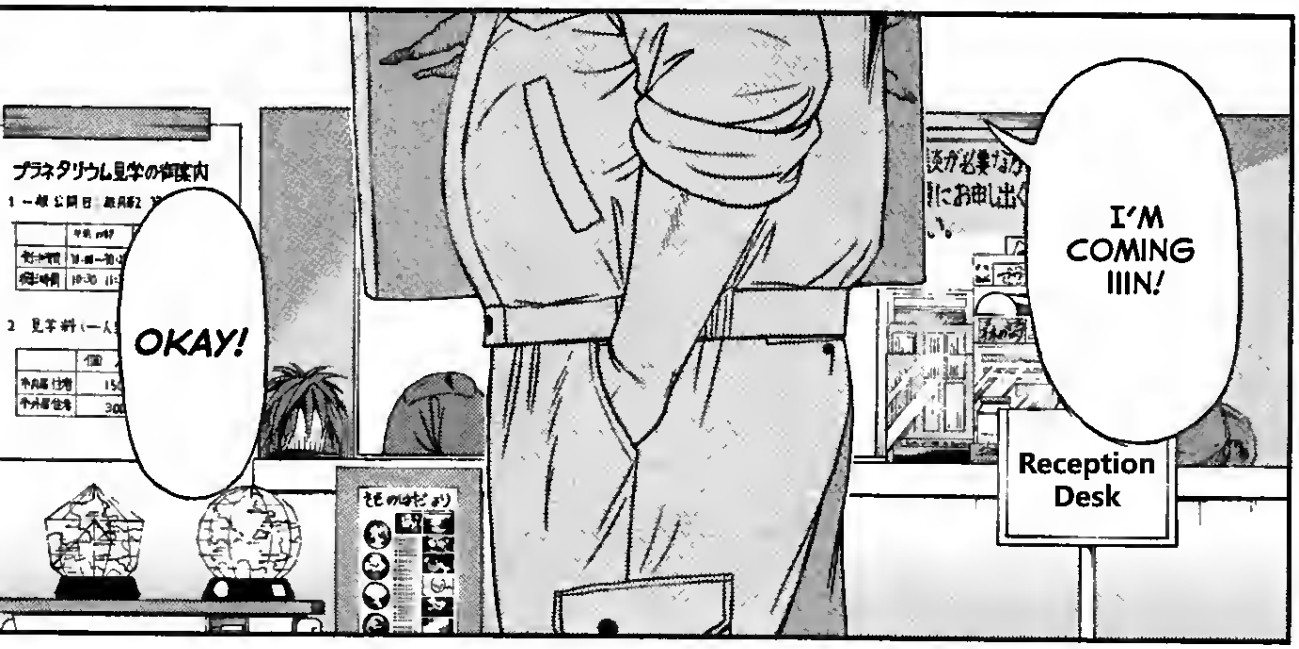
Chapter 7 Drunken Stargazing

NOTHING TO DO...

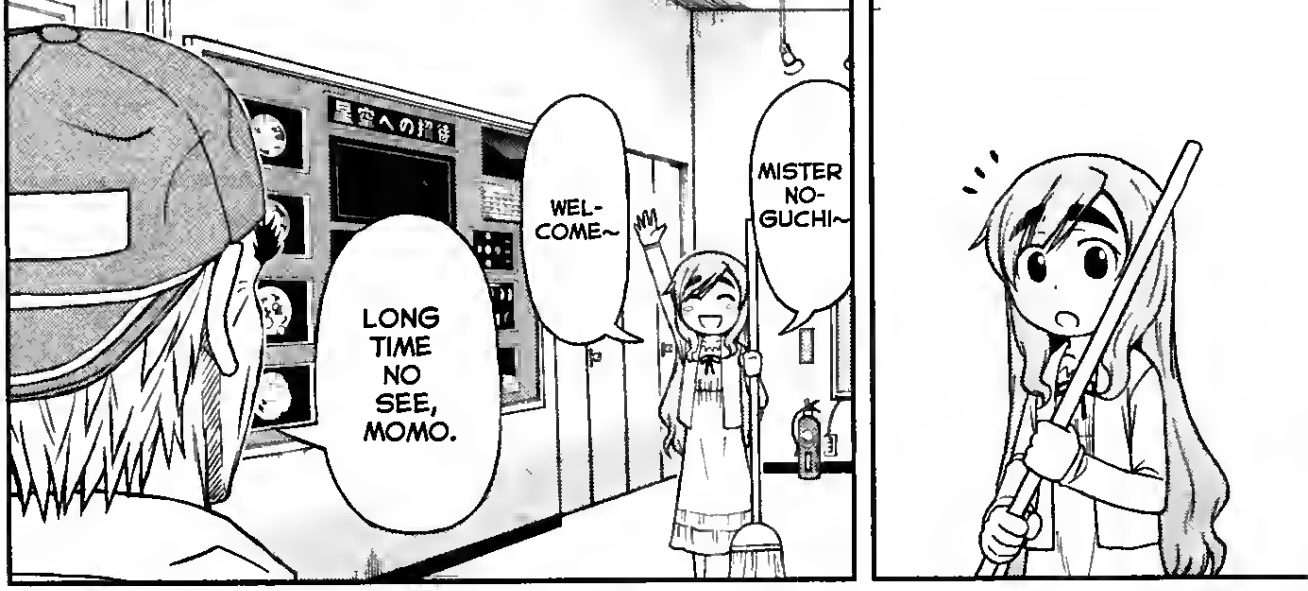
ふぁ～

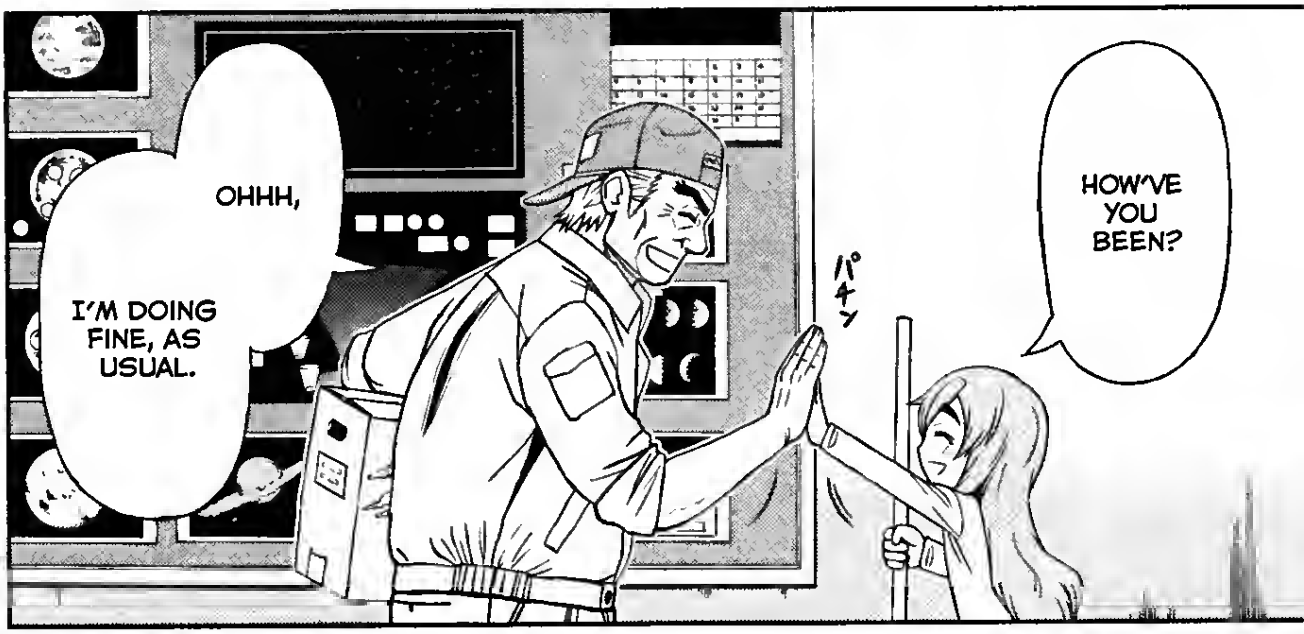
Reception Desk


TODAY I'VE BEEN HELPING OUT AS A RECEP-TIONIST AT THE OBSER-VATORY.
WELL, EVEN IF YOU CALL ME A RECEPTIONIST IT'S NOT LIKE THERE ARE ANY VISITORS OR ANYTHING.


I'M COMING IIIN!
Reception Desk
OKAY!

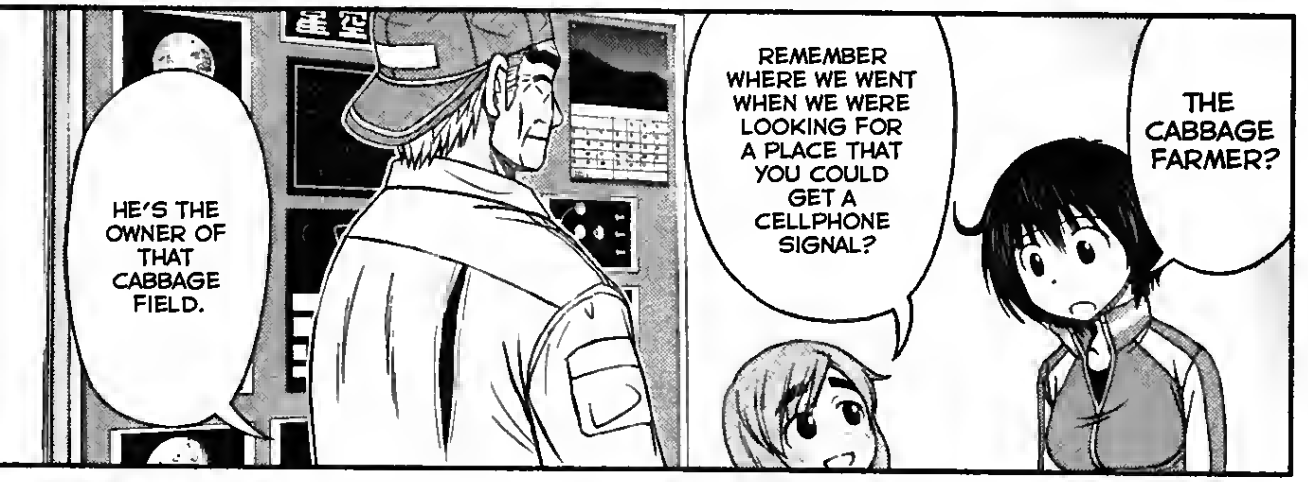
A VISITOR?
NO WAY-


WEL-
COME~
MISTER
NO-
GUCHI~
LONG
TIME
NO
SEE,
MOMO.

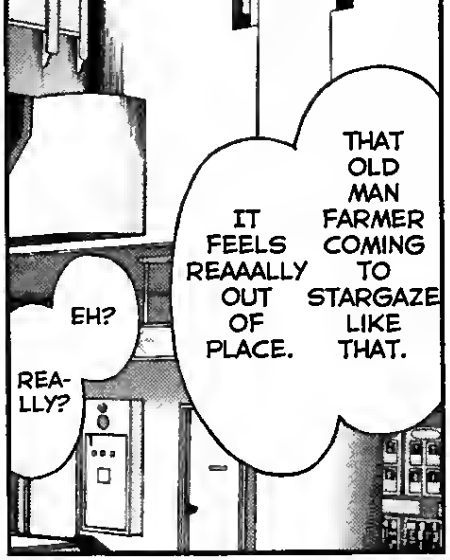

OHHH,
I'M DOING
FINE, AS
USUAL.
パチン
HOW'VE
YOU
BEEN?

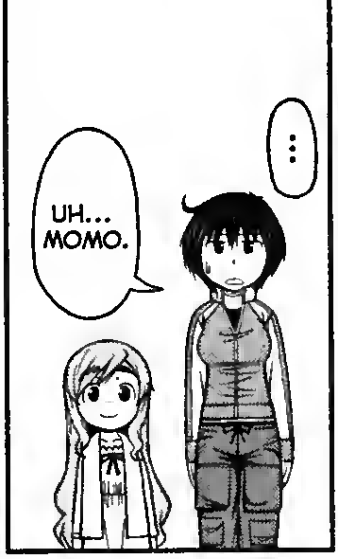
SHE
KNOWS
HIM?
...THEY'RE
FRIENDS,
FOR
THAT
MATTER?
...

THIS IS MR. NOGUCHI.
I'M NOGUCHI, THE CABBAGE FARMER.
NICE TO MEET YOU.

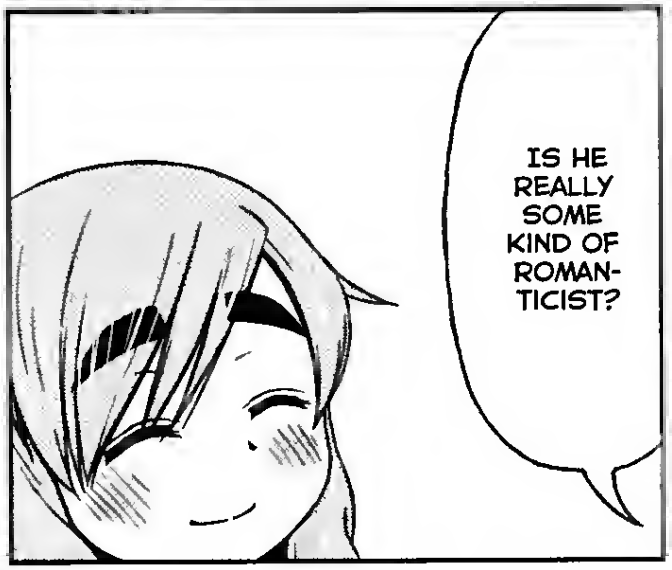

THE CABBAGE FARMER?
REMEMBER WHERE WE WENT WHEN WE WERE LOOKING FOR A PLACE THAT YOU COULD GET A CELLPHONE SIGNAL?
HE'S THE OWNER OF THAT CABBAGE FIELD.

AHHHH! THAT FIELD WHERE THERE WERE CABBAGES AS FAR AS THE EYE COULD SEE?
AMA-ZING!
THAT'S RIGHT, MY FIELD IS AMAZING.
YOU SHOULD COME BY MY FIELD AGAIN SOMETIME, YOUNG LADY.
EH?
I'LL EVEN MAKE AN EXCEPTION AND LET YOU RIDE MY TRACTOR.
Ahahaha
NO THANK YOU.


THAT OLD MAN FARMER COMING TO STARGAZE LIKE THAT.
IT FEELS REAAALLY OUT OF PLACE.
EH?
REA-LLY?


:
UH... MOMO.

WELL, I'LL JUST HEAD UP ON MY OWN.
OKA~Y.

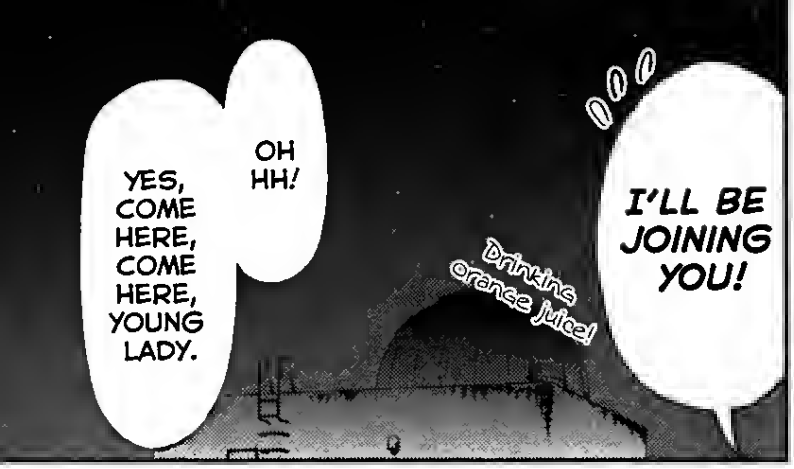

IS HE REALLY SOME KIND OF ROMAN-TICIST?

HE'S SUCH A ROUGH OLD MAN, BUT...

IF YOU GO UP AND LOOK,
YOU'LL UNDER-STAND.
?

I GET IT.
AHHHHH.
DRUNKEN STAR-GAZING.
I've already begun, you know.
THIS IS...
特産
I'M COMING RIGHT NO~W!
MOMO, HURRY UP AND JOIN IN!
OKA~Y.
MR. NOGUCHI AND SHIN WERE VERY GOOD FRIENDS.
THEY CAME HERE OFTEN AND DRANK WHILE WATCHING THE STARS.
RIGHT.

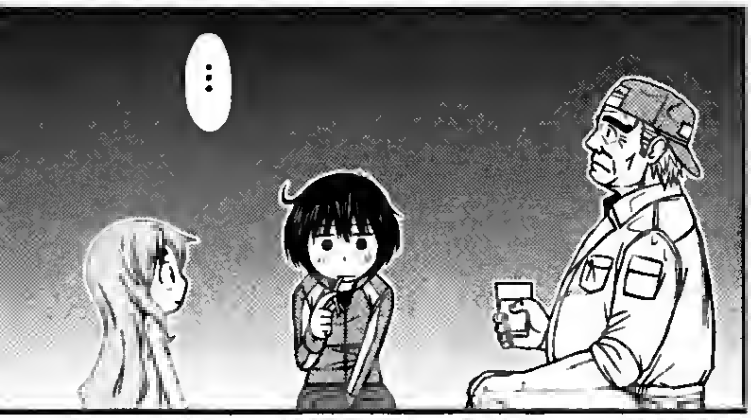
HUH?
YOU'RE GONNA DRINK TOO, MOMO?!
YEAH, JUST A LITTLE.
EHH HH?!
IS THAT OKAY?
?
IS WHAT?
BECAUSE NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOU COULD HANDLE A DRINK.
NOT TO MENTION, DRINKING TOGETHER WITH THAT ROUGH OLD MAN...
?
AHH HHH, SHE-ESH!
MOMO, HURRY UP, HURRY UP
YE~S.
THANKS FOR SETTING ALL THIS UP.
Here you go
OH, YOU'RE SERVING ME, MOMO?
THANK YOU.
OH! It'll spill, it'll spill.


I'LL BE JOINING YOU!
Drinking orange juice!
OHHH!
YES, COME HERE, COME HERE, YOUNG LADY.

I...

HE JUST DRANK QUIET-LY,
SIP BY SIP

MY FIRST IMPRESSION WAS THAT OF A HEARTY OLD MAN.
SO I THOUGHT FOR CERTAIN HE'D CAUSE SOME KIND OF UPROAR, BUT...
やどり
純米吟醸
...The SOMEDAYO WHISKY

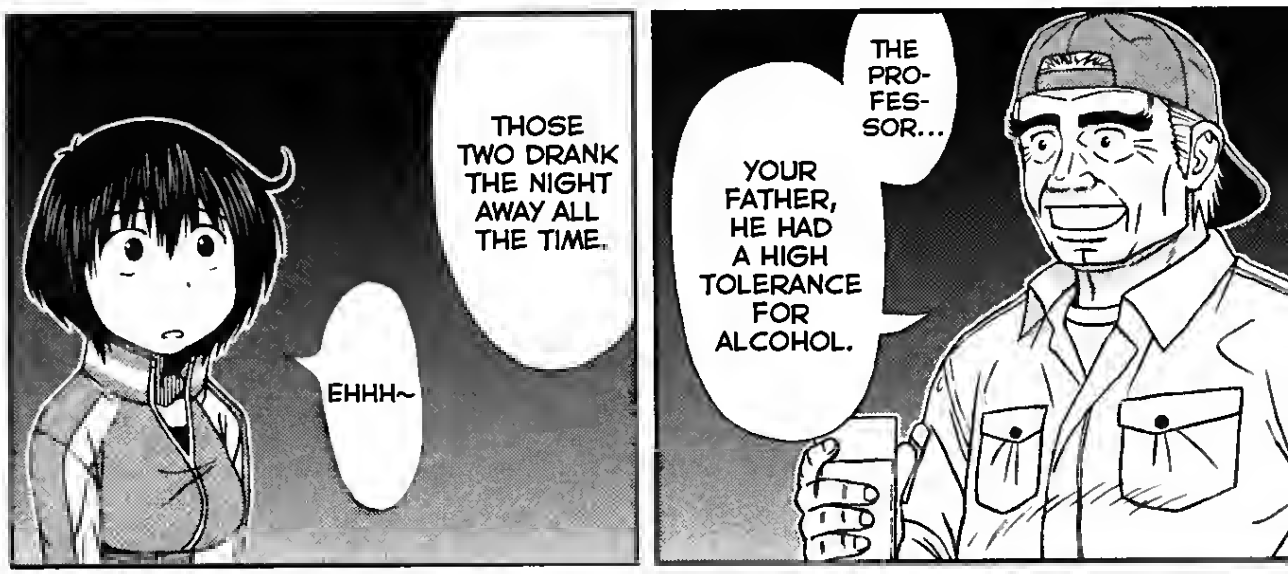

...

IT'S QUIET...
もぐ
もぐ
もぐ

OKAY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
YES, PLEASE.
MOMO, ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU HAD SOME?
WHE~W.
She really drank it...
IS SHE OKAY...?
DELI-CIOU~S!

Wa aa aa~
...
AHH HHH!
MO- MO?!
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.
THIS IS NORMAL.
IS- IS THAT RIGHT?
HEY!
MOMO, GET A HOLD OF YOUR-SELF!
Waaaaaa~!
AHA HA HA!

PASSING OUT FROM ONE CUP LIKE THAT,
YOU WOULDN'T NORMALLY SAY YOU CAN HANDLE A DRINK.
AHA HA HA,
DID MOMO SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
GOSH.
...


THOSE TWO DRANK THE NIGHT AWAY ALL THE TIME.
EHHH~
THE PRO-FES-SOR...
YOUR FATHER, HE HAD A HIGH TOLERANCE FOR ALCOHOL.

FIVE YEARS? THAT'LL GO BY BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.
I WON'T KNOW FOR ANOTHER FIVE YEARS.
YOU'VE PROBABLY GOT A HIGH TOLERANCE TOO, YOUNG LADY.
Like your father
HMM... I WONDER.

RIGHT...
I'LL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO US POURING EACH OTHER DRINKS.
SO, FIVE YEARS FROM NOW,

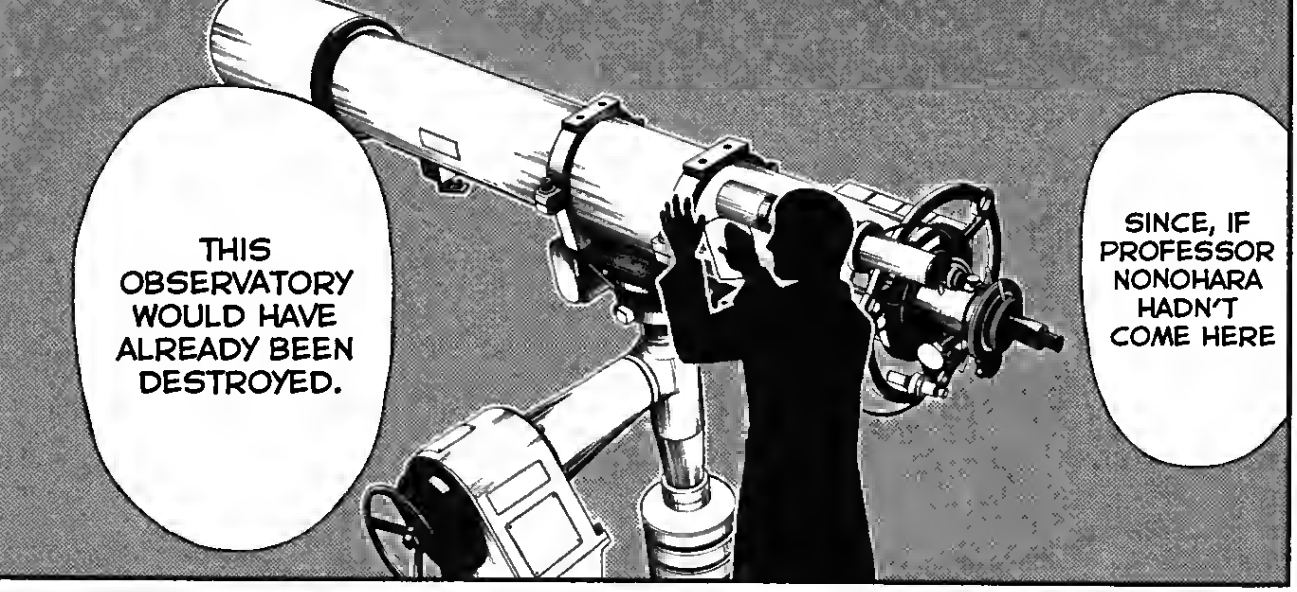
I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND.

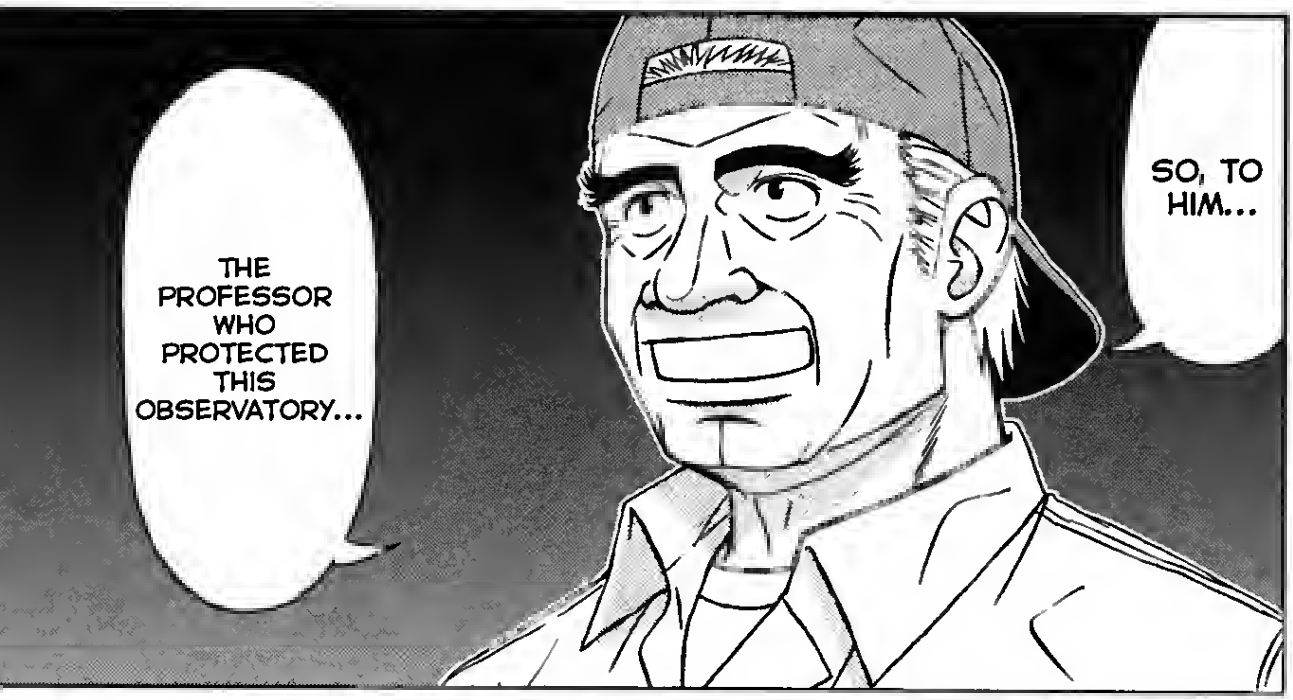
EX-
CUSE
ME.
YES?
DO
YOU
LIKE
STAR
GAZ-
ING?
NOT
AT
ALL.
AS
EXPEC-
TED.

I'M FULL
OF HAPPY
MEMORIES OF
COMING
TO THIS
OBSERVATORY
WITH MY
SON AND
DAUGHTER.

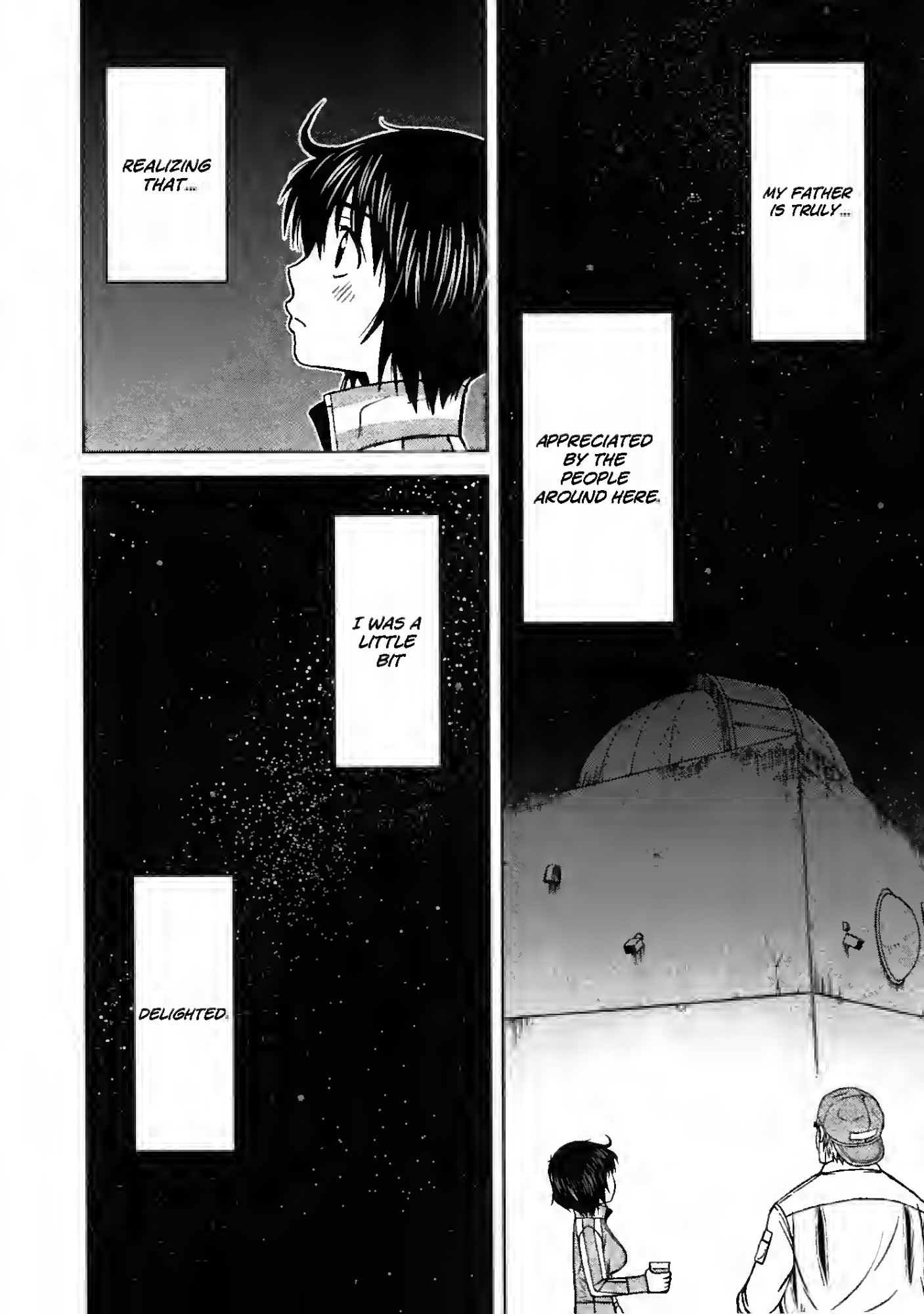
RATHER
THAN
THE
STARS...

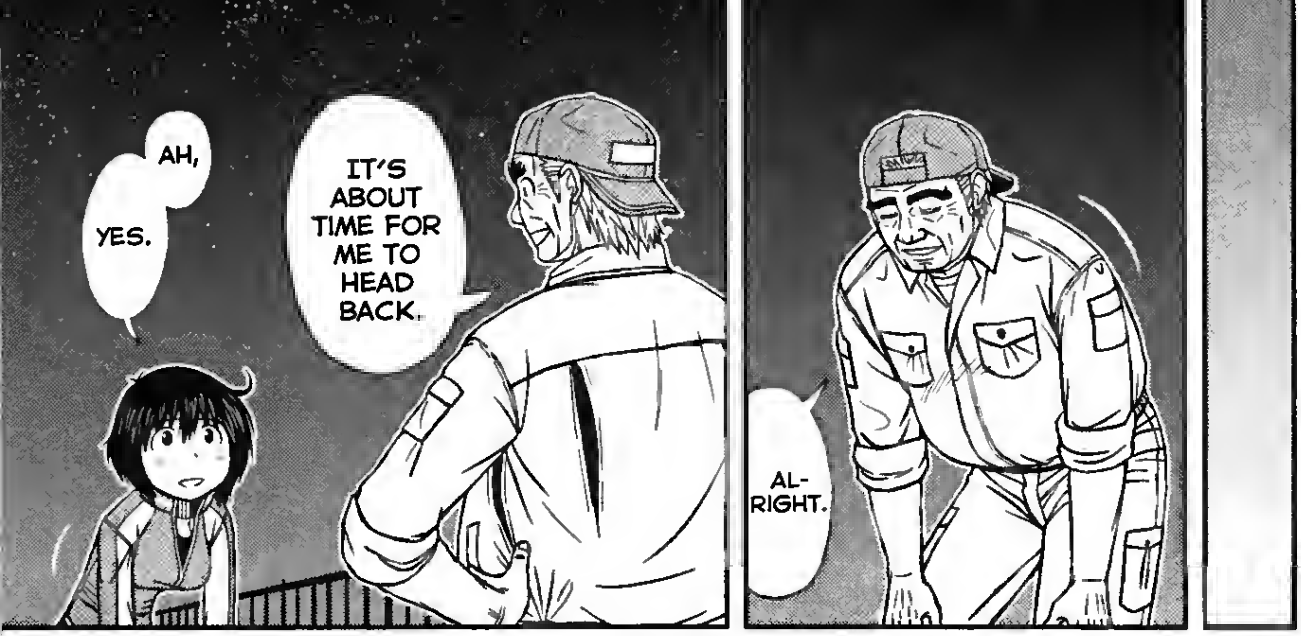
IT'S
THIS
OBSER-
VATORY
THAT
I LIKE.
EH?


THIS OBSERVATORY WOULD HAVE ALREADY BEEN DESTROYED.
SINCE, IF PROFESSOR NONOHARA HADN'T COME HERE

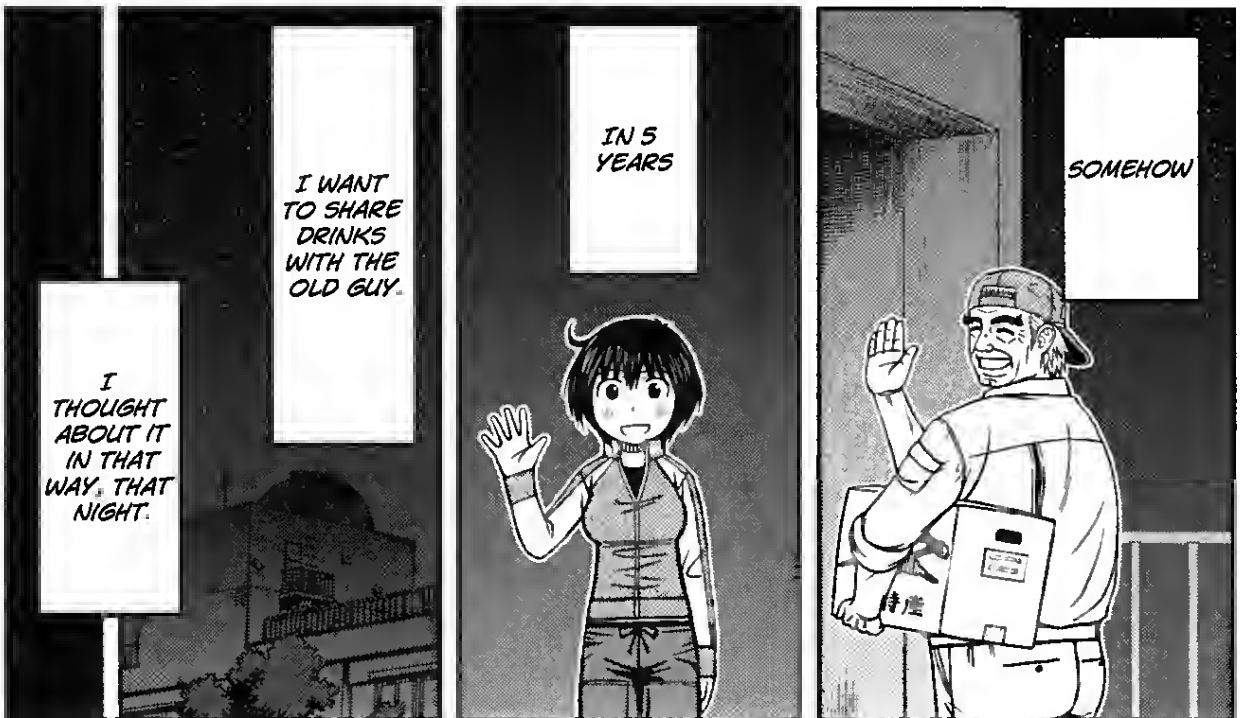

THE PROFESSOR WHO PROTECTED THIS OBSERVATORY...
SO, TO HIM...

I AM TRULY GRATEFUL.


MY FATHER IS TRULY...
APPRECIATED BY THE PEOPLE AROUND HERE.
REALIZING THAT...
I WAS A LITTLE BIT
DELIGHTED.


AH,
YES.
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO HEAD BACK.
AL-RIGHT.

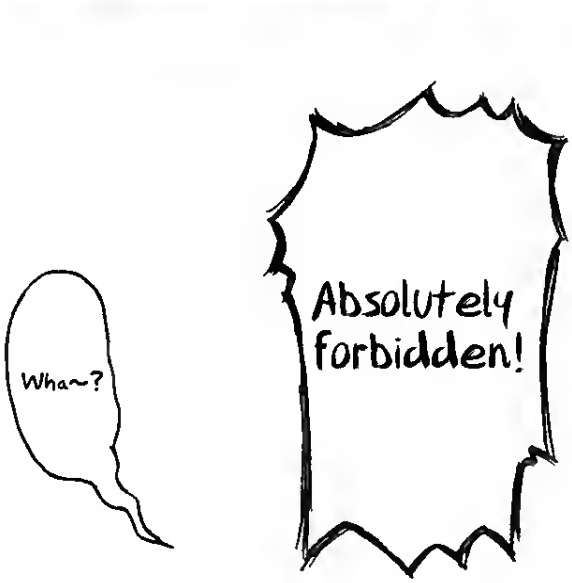
PLEASE DO YOUR BEST.
YES.
IT'LL BE SOME TROUBLE, I THINK, BUT
産


I THOUGHT ABOUT IT IN THAT WAY, THAT NIGHT.
I WANT TO SHARE DRINKS WITH THE OLD GUY.
IN 5 YEARS
SOMEHOW
特産

THIS WAS WHAT HE MEANT.
Momo's rather heavy..
WHEN HE SAID, "PLEASE DO YOUR BEST"...

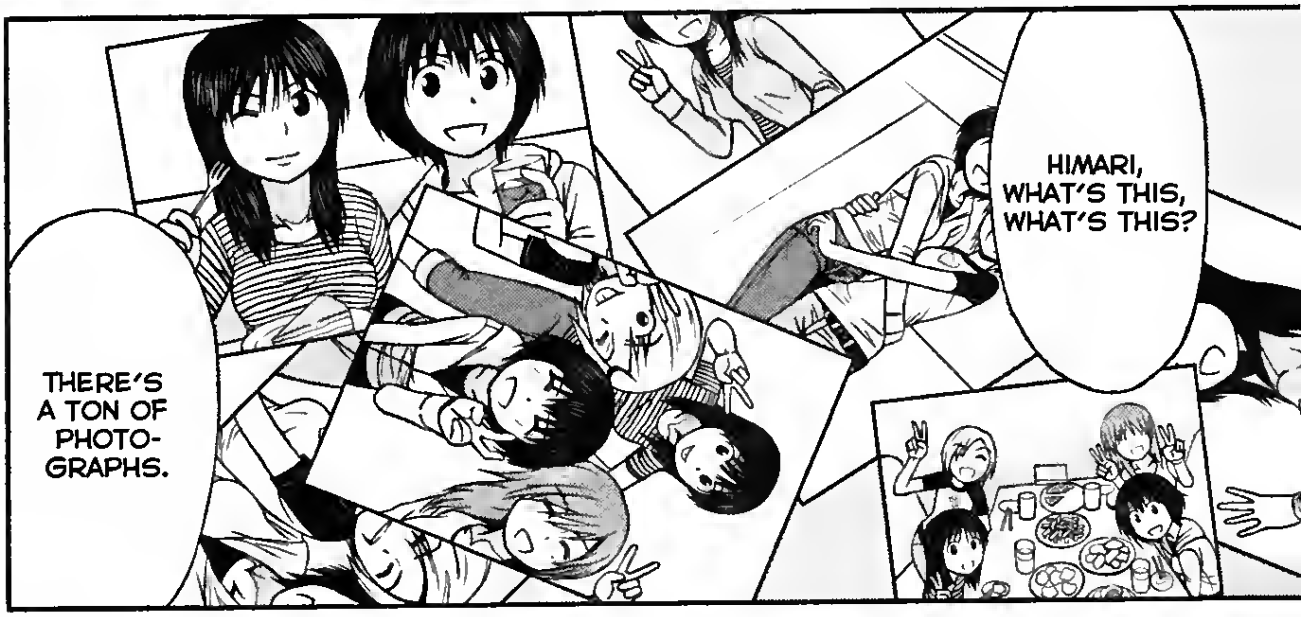
AGG GH HH HHH HHH!

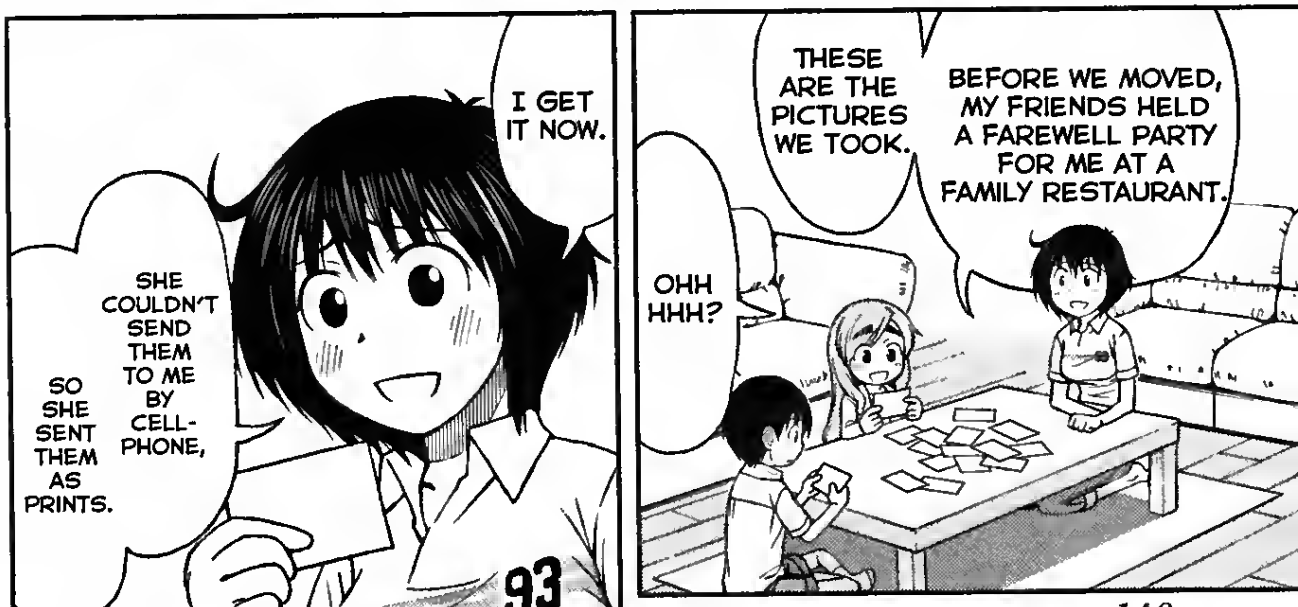
I can't drink any mo~re
...
mumble mumble


Wha~?
Absolutely forbidden!
Momo, alcohol is forbidden!

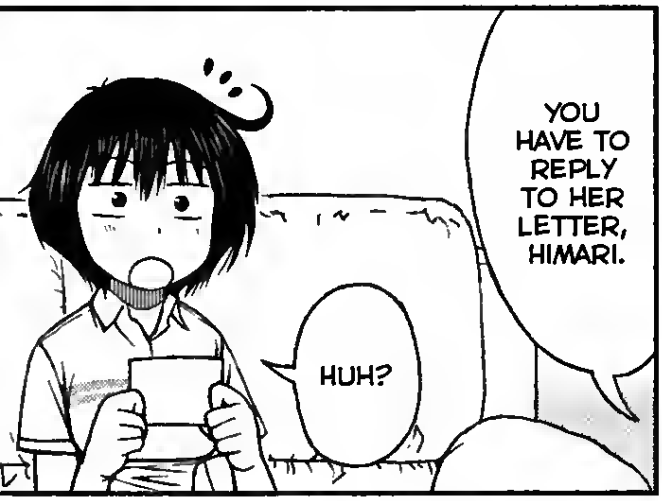
Chapter 8 Photographs

MY FRIEND AKKI SENT ME A LETTER.


HIMARI, WHAT'S THIS, WHAT'S THIS?
THERE'S A TON OF PHOTO-GRAPHS.


THESE ARE THE PICTURES WE TOOK.
BEFORE WE MOVED, MY FRIENDS HELD A FAREWELL PARTY FOR ME AT A FAMILY RESTAURANT.
OHH HHH?
I GET IT NOW.
SHE COULDN'T SEND THEM TO ME BY CELL-PHONE,
SO SHE SENT THEM AS PRINTS.
93

THIS AKKI'S A GOOD GIRL, ISN'T SHE.
YES.
SHE'S MY BEST FRIEND.


YOU HAVE TO REPLY TO HER LETTER, HIMARI.
HUH?

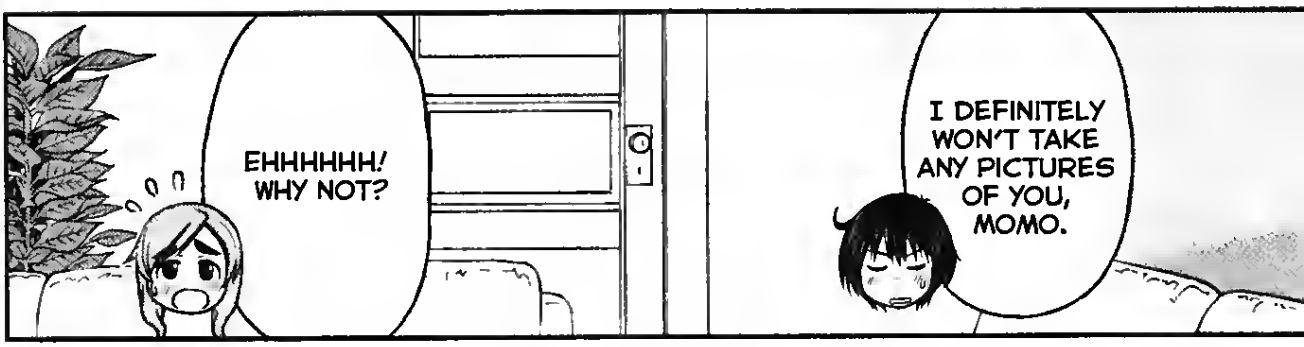
THEN

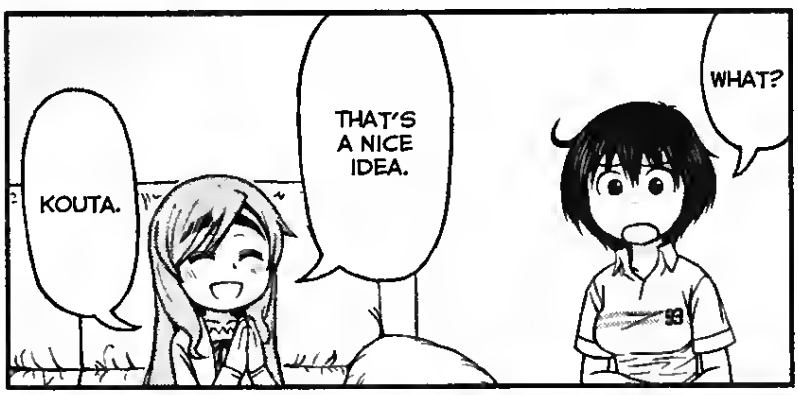
Hmmmm~
PHOTO-GRAPHS, HUH...
BUT WHAT SORT OF PICTURES SHOULD I SEND?
93

IT'D BE NICE OF YOU TO SEND HER SOME PHOTOGRAPHS, TOO.
PHOTO-GRAPHS?

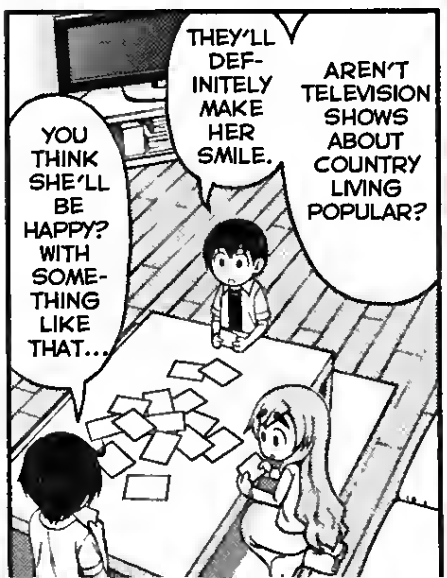
I WAS THINKING I'D CALL HER, THOUGH.
NO, NO.
YOU HAVE TO REPLY TO A LETTER WITH ANOTHER LETTER, YOU KNOW?

わく
UMM MMM...
わく
わく

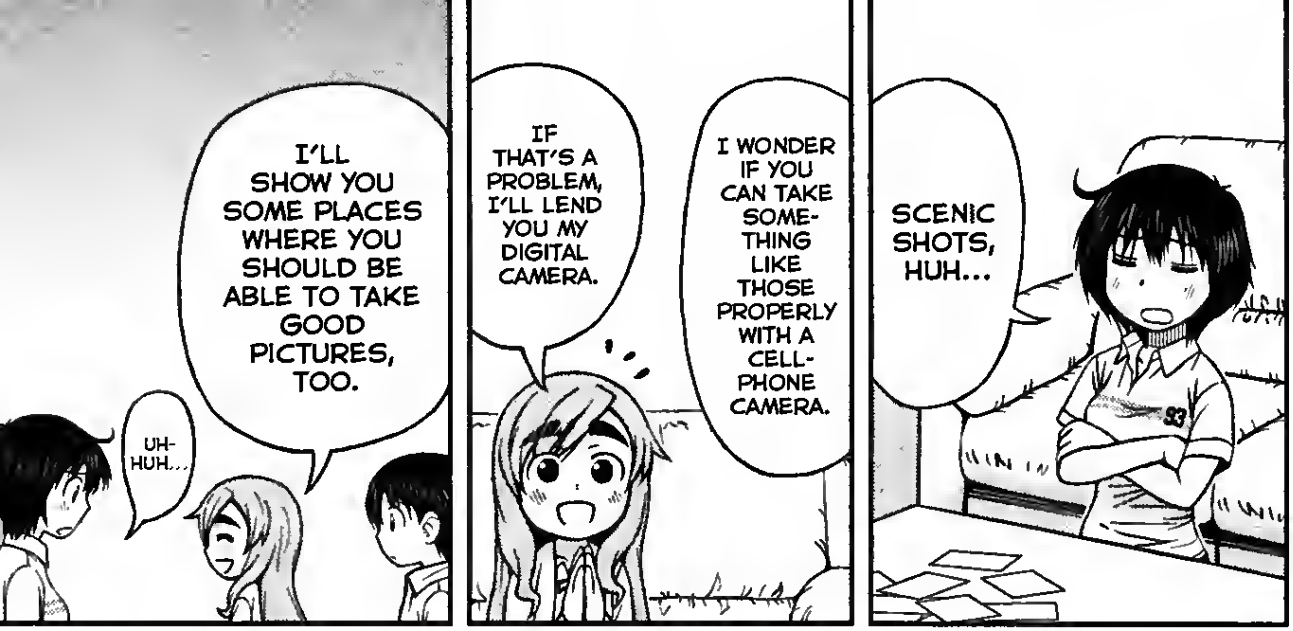

EHHHHHH! WHY NOT?
I DEFINITELY WON'T TAKE ANY PICTURES OF YOU, MOMO.


KOUTA.
THAT'S A NICE IDEA.
WHAT?

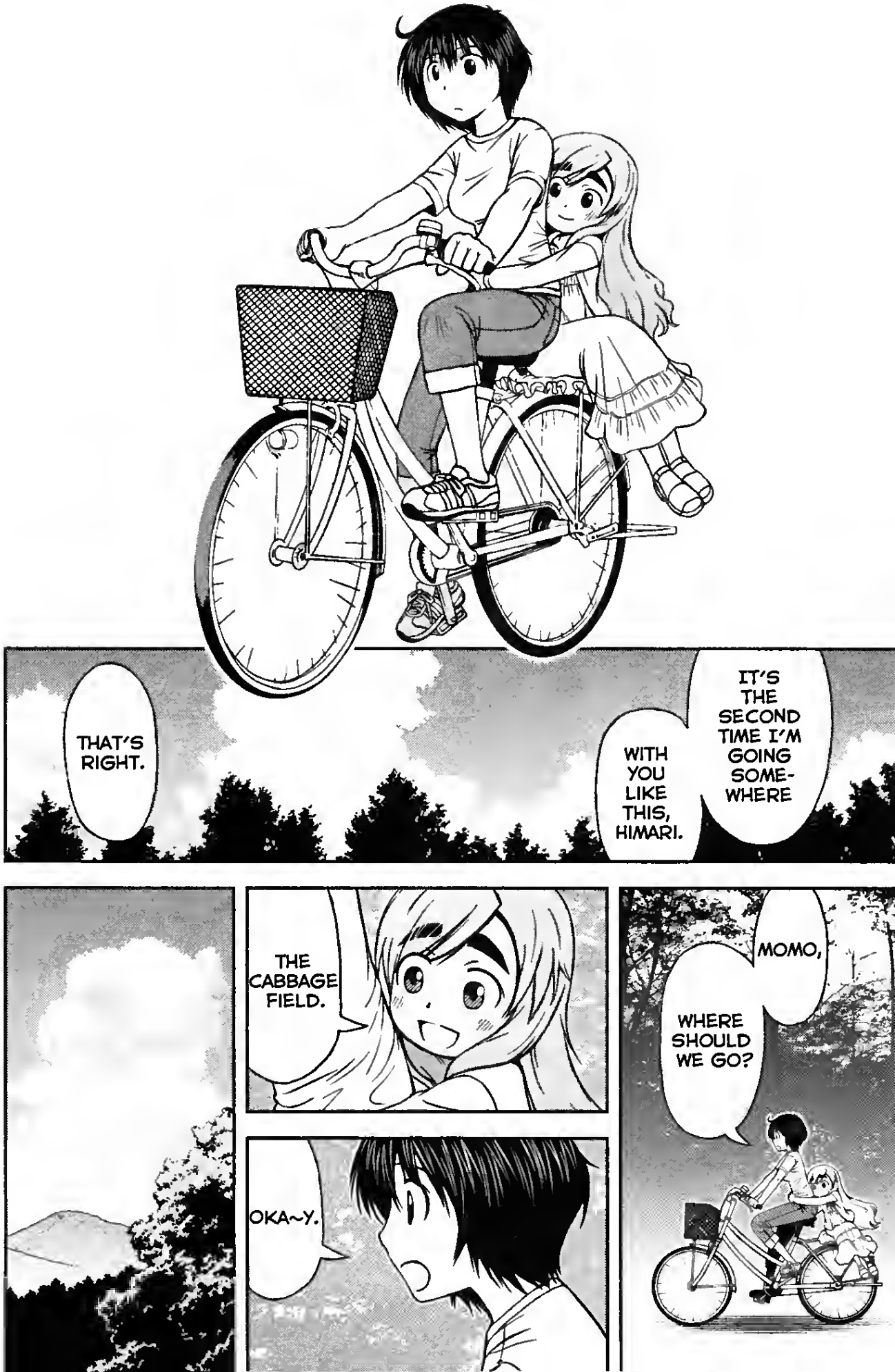
HOW ABOUT IF YOU SEND HER SOME SCENIC SHOTS OF THE AREA AROUND HERE?

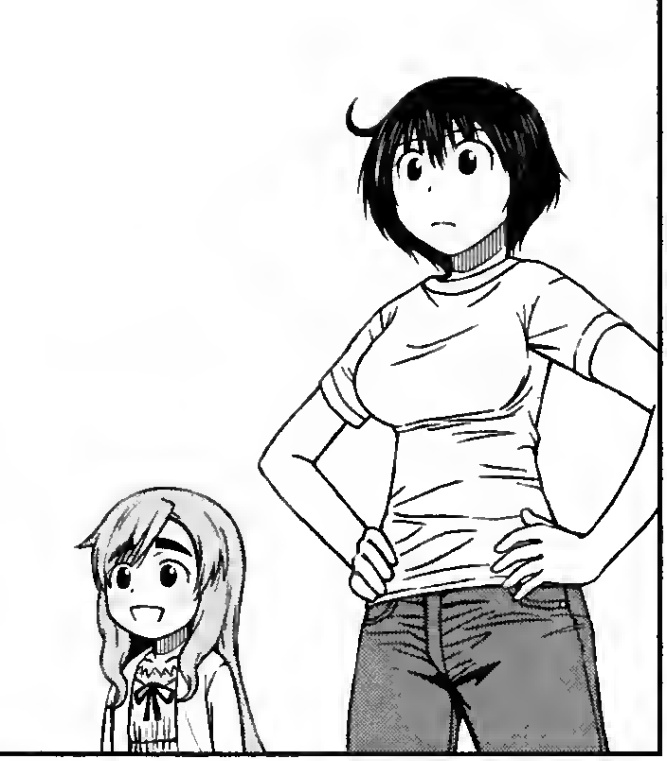

YOU THINK SHE'LL BE HAPPY? WITH SOME-THING LIKE THAT...
THEY'LL DEF-INITELY MAKE HER SMILE.
AREN'T TELEVISION SHOWS ABOUT COUNTRY LIVING POPULAR?

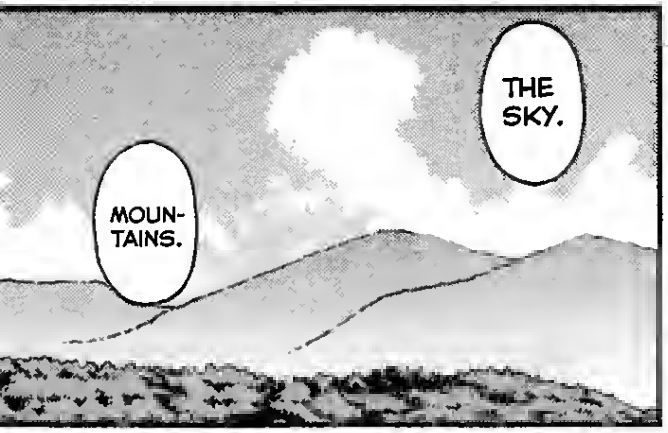
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
PICTURES OF THIS BACKWATER WOULDN'T BE THAT INTERESTING TO LOOK AT, THOUGH.


SCENIC SHOTS, HUH...
I WONDER IF YOU CAN TAKE SOME-THING LIKE THOSE PROPERLY WITH A CELL-PHONE CAMERA.
IF THAT'S A PROBLEM, I'LL LEND YOU MY DIGITAL CAMERA.
I'LL SHOW YOU SOME PLACES WHERE YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE GOOD PICTURES, TOO.
UH-HUH...

WE'LL GO *TOGETHER* TO TAKE SOME PICTURES
YOU CAN SEND TO AKKI.


IT'S THE SECOND TIME I'M GOING SOME-WHERE
WITH YOU LIKE THIS, HIMARI.
THAT'S RIGHT.
MOMO, WHERE SHOULD WE GO?
THE CABBAGE FIELD.
OKA~Y.

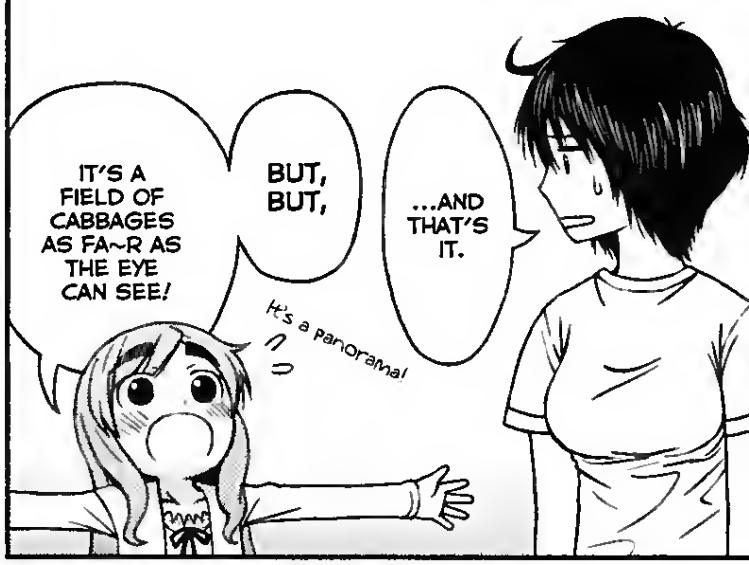


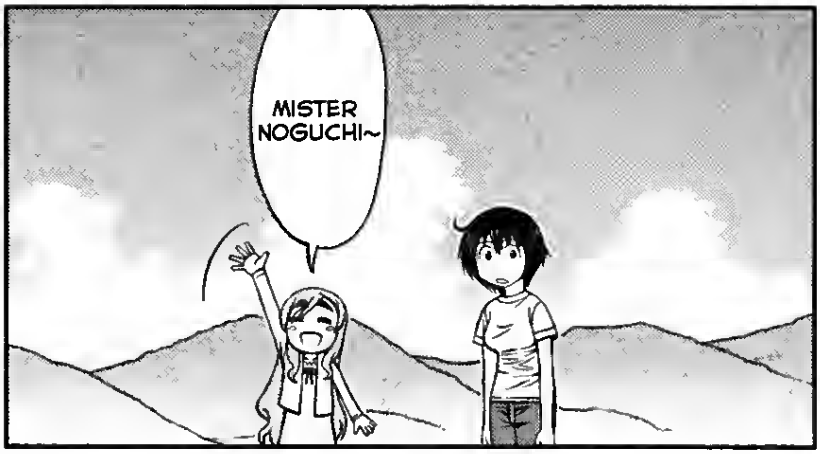

THE SKY.
MOUN-TAINS.

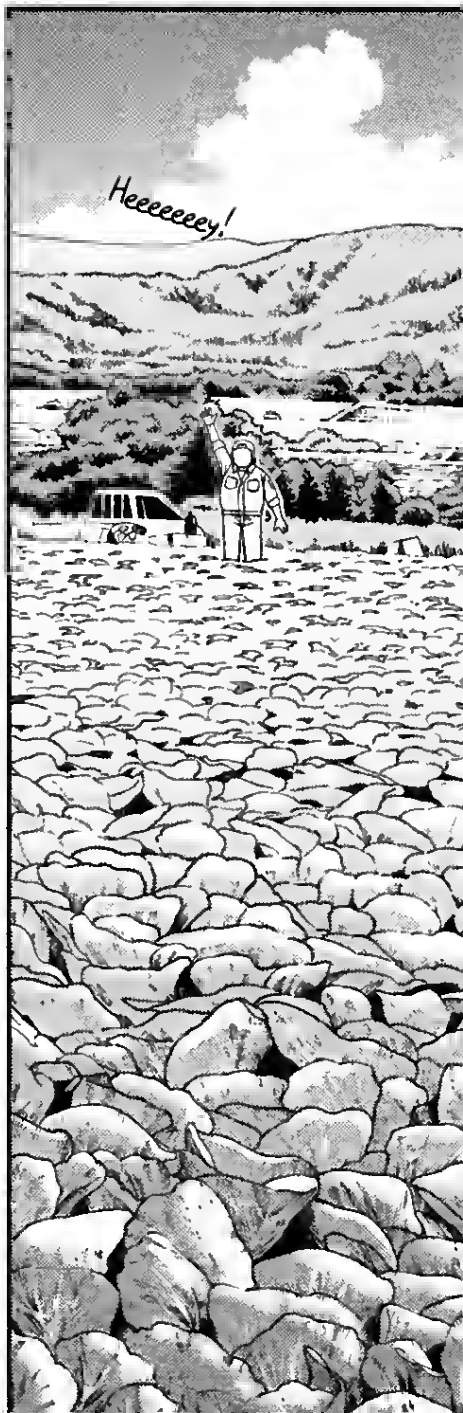
THE CAB-BAGES.

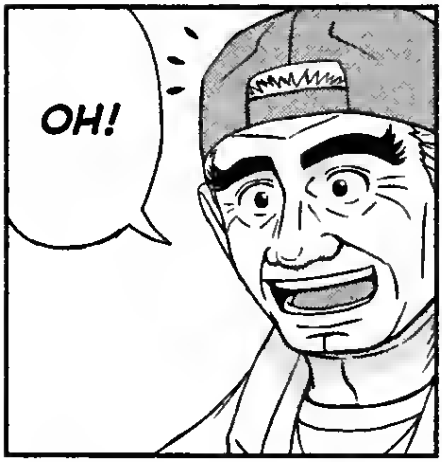
A TRACTOR.

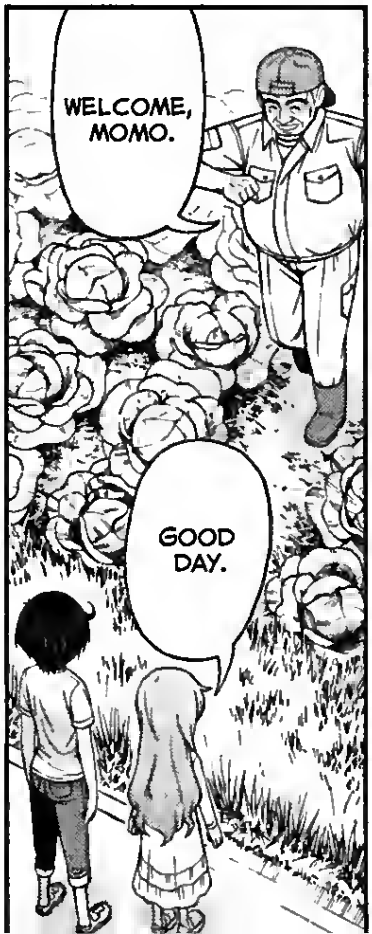
I WONDER ABOUT THAT...
I THINK AKKI WILL DEFINITELY FIND IT SURPRISING, TOO.

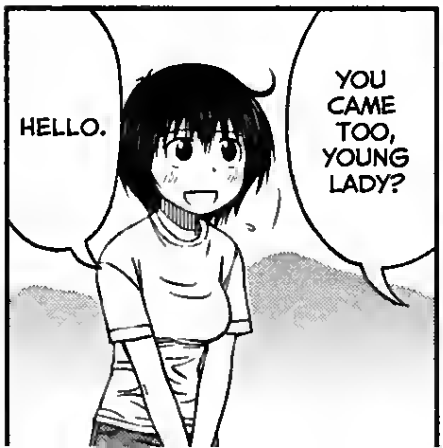

IT'S A FIELD OF CABBAGES AS FA~R AS THE EYE CAN SEE!
BUT, BUT,
It's a panorama!
...AND THAT'S IT.


MISTER NOGUCHI~


Heeeeeeey!

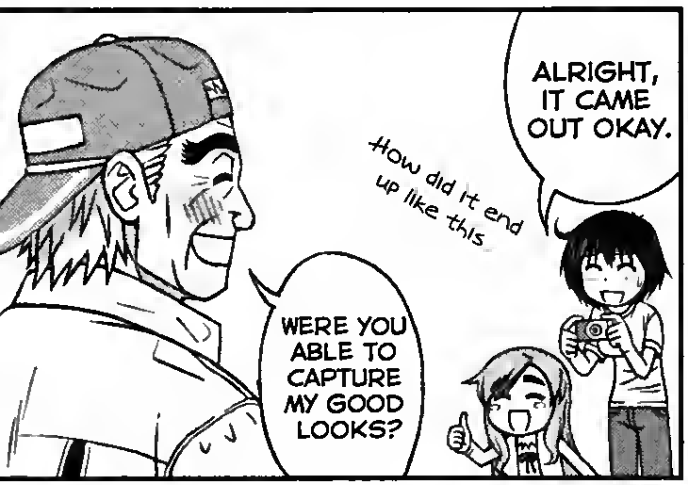

OH!


WELCOME, MOMO.
GOOD DAY.


HELLO.
YOU CAME TOO, YOUNG LADY?

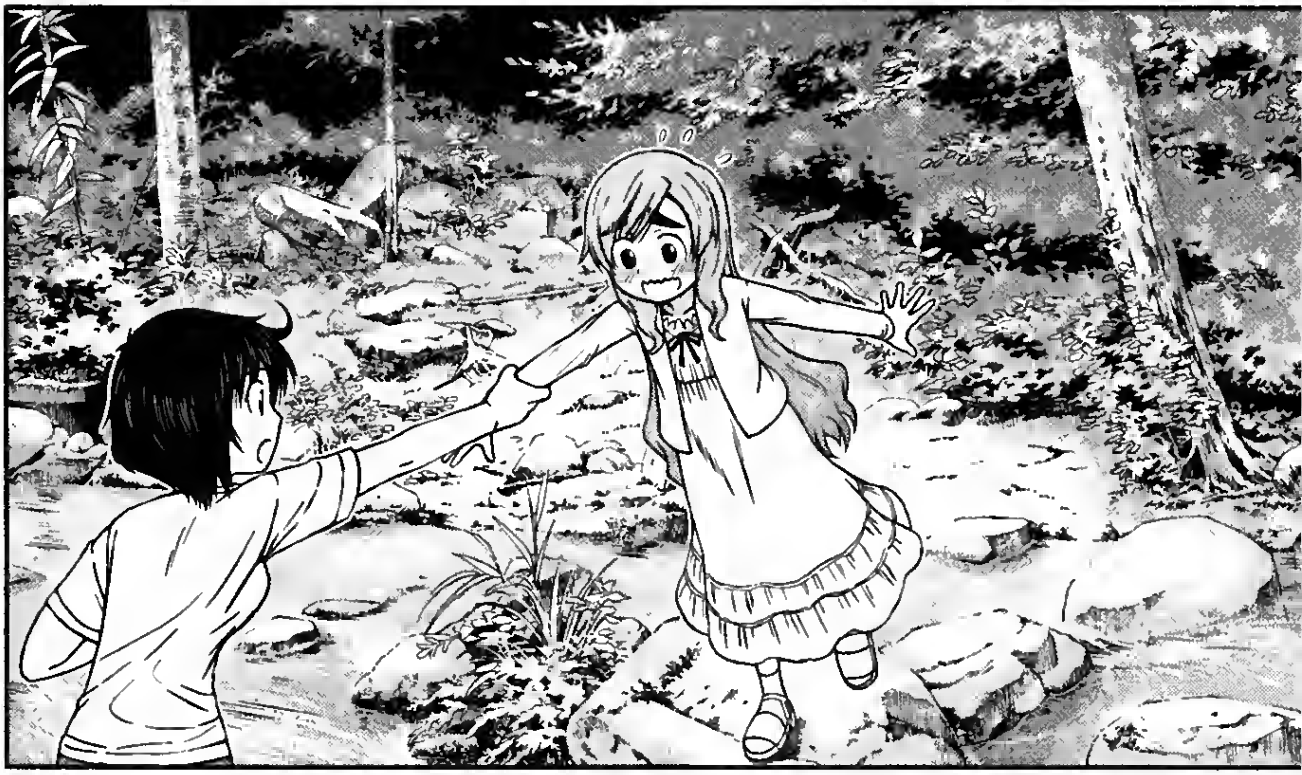
NO THANK YOU.
It's awesome
AS PROMISED, I'LL LET YOU RIDE MY PRIZED TRACTOR.
OKAY!

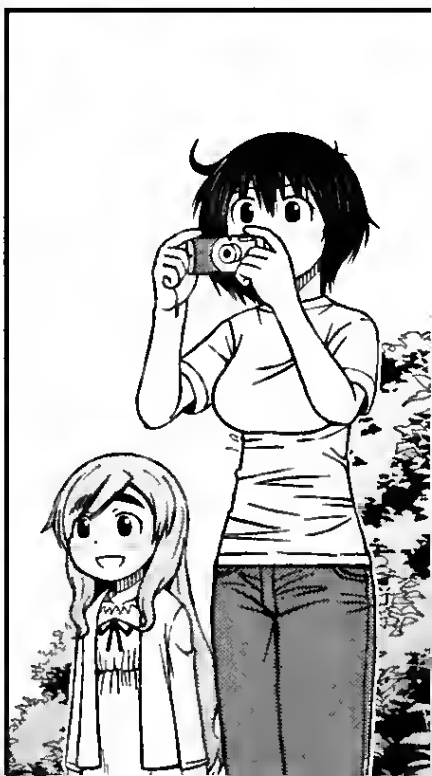
OKAY.
CHEESE!
SAY CHEESE!

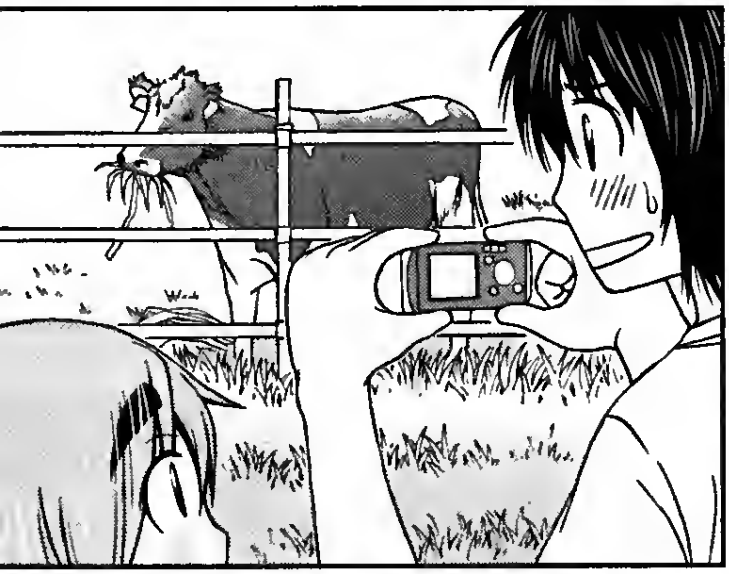

ALRIGHT, IT CAME OUT OKAY.
How did it end up like this
WERE YOU ABLE TO CAPTURE MY GOOD LOOKS?

YE~S!

DON'T FORGET MY COPY, TOO!
WHEN YOU GET IT PRINTED







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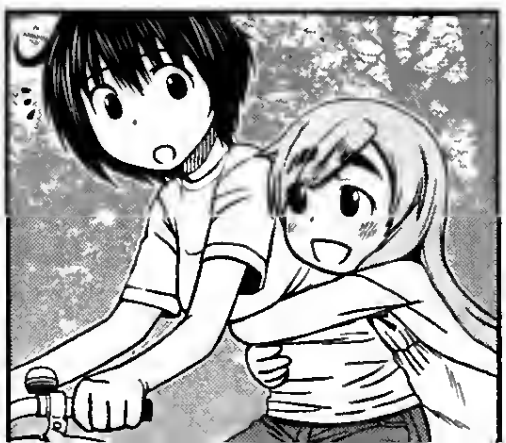
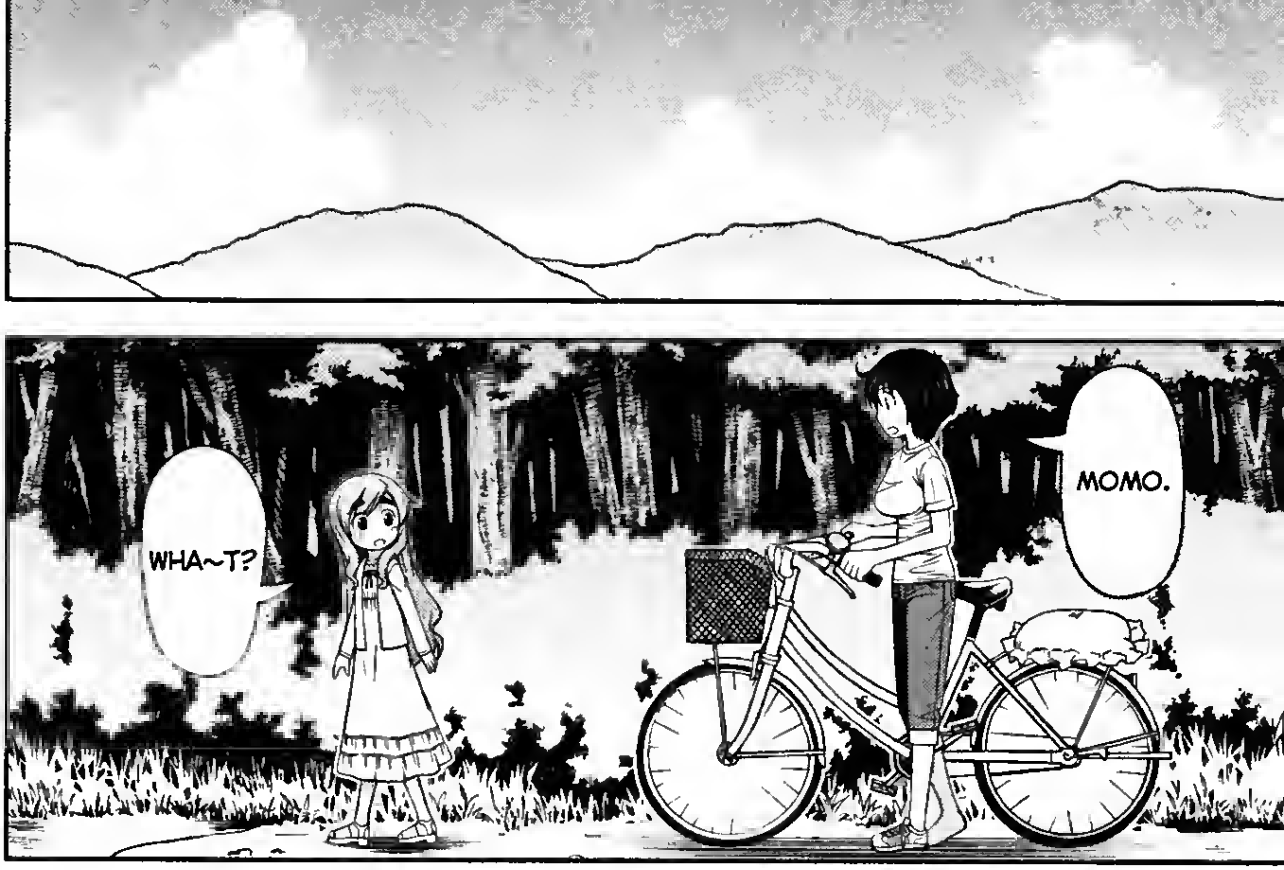
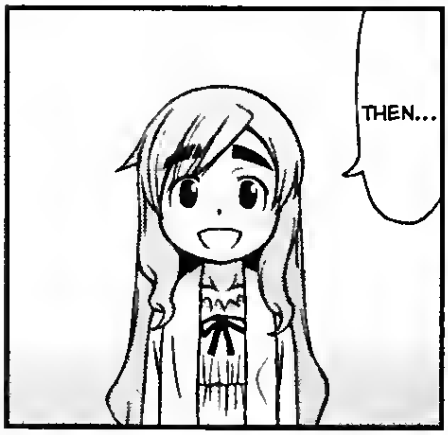
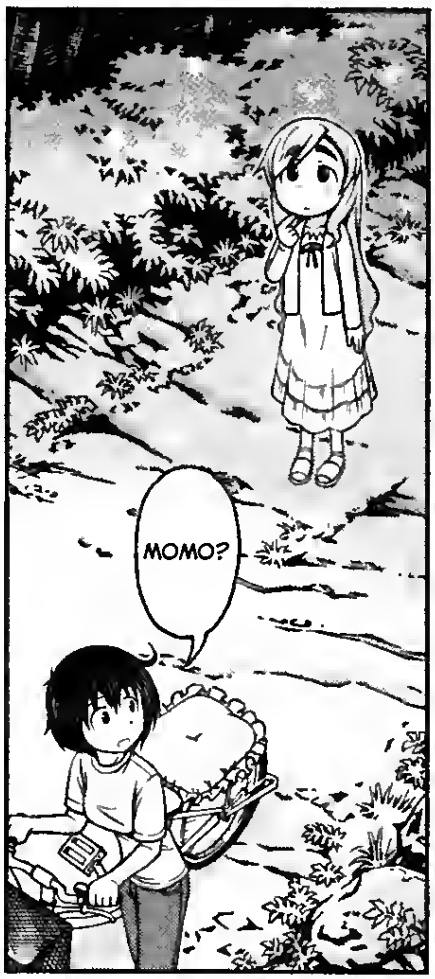
Be careful.
Bears appear
around here.

No way!?

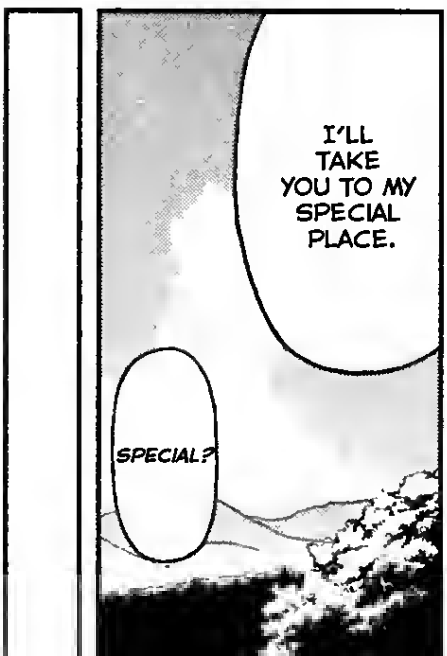



MOMO.
WHA~T?


THEN...

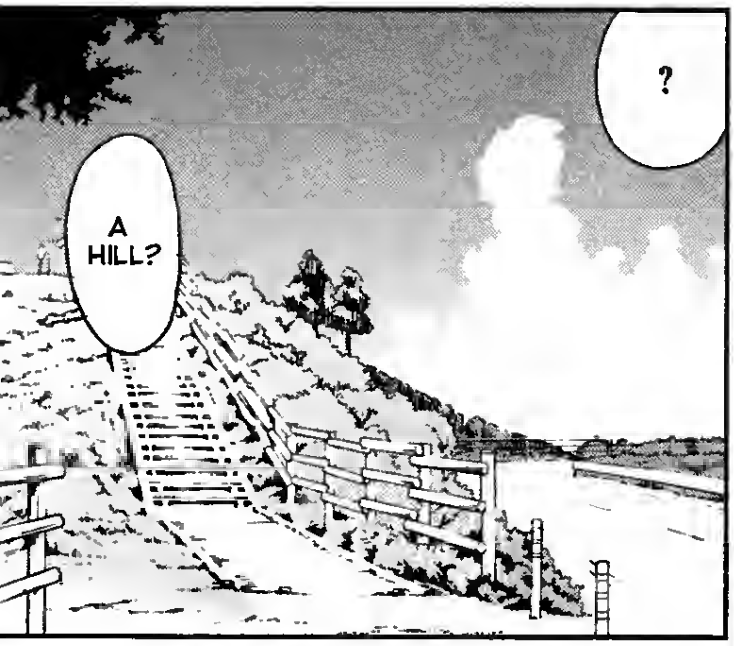

MOMO?

IS THERE ANYWHERE MORE INTER-ESTING?

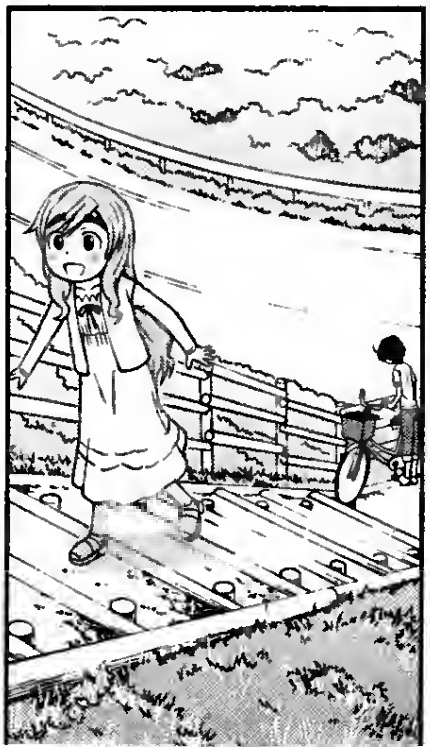

I'LL TAKE YOU TO MY SPECIAL PLACE.
SPECIAL?

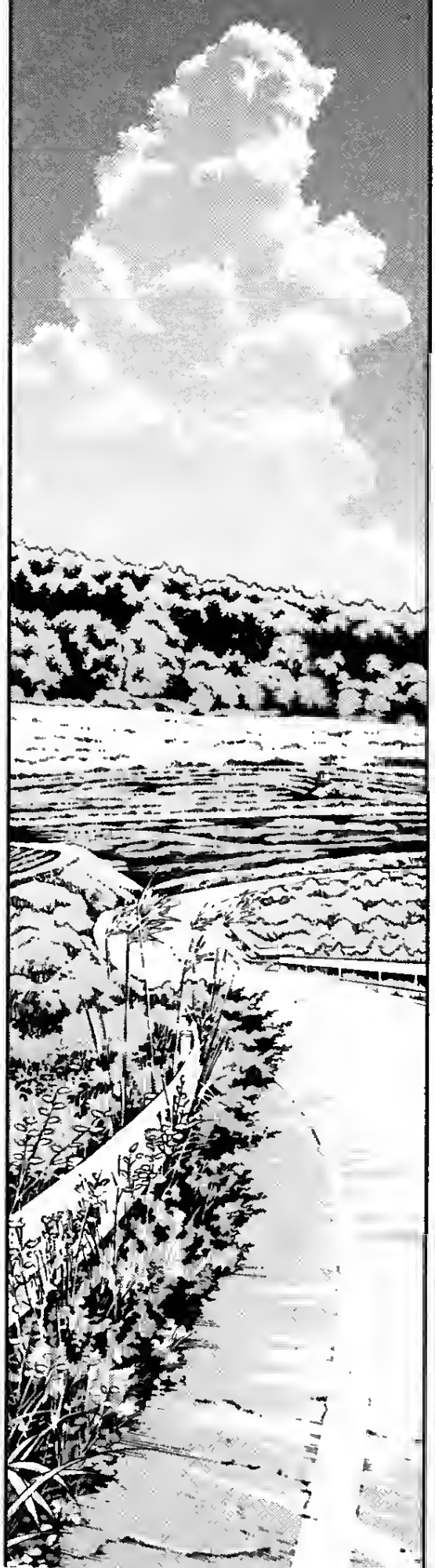
HMM MM MM.

HERE?
WE'RE HERE.

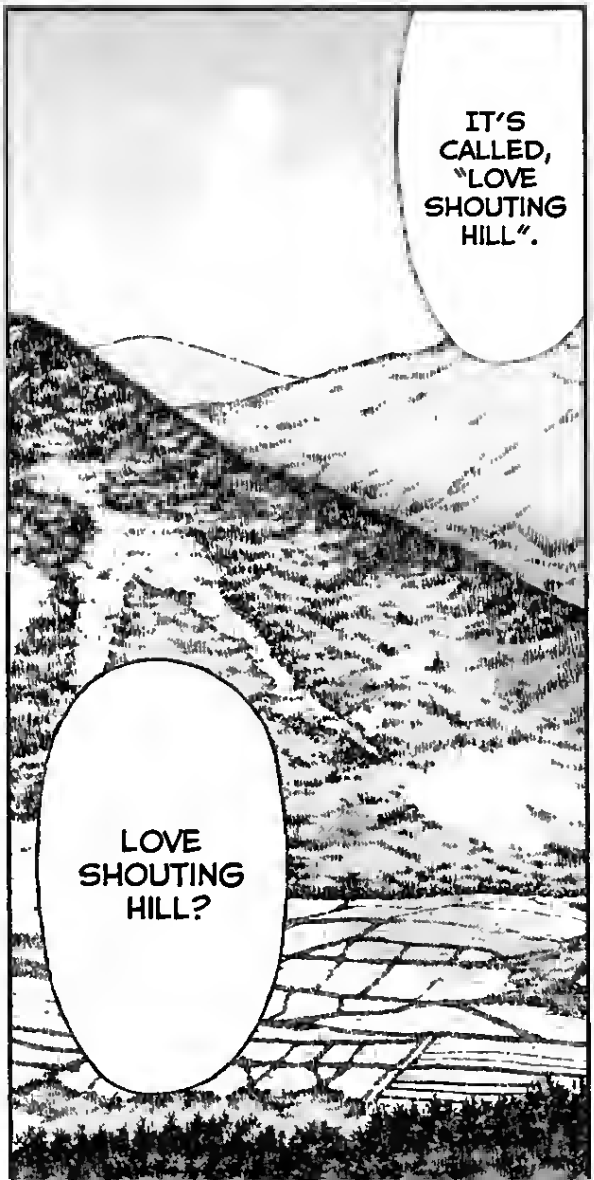

A HILL?
?

HIMARI, HURRY UP, HURRY UP.
I'M COMING RIGHT NOW!



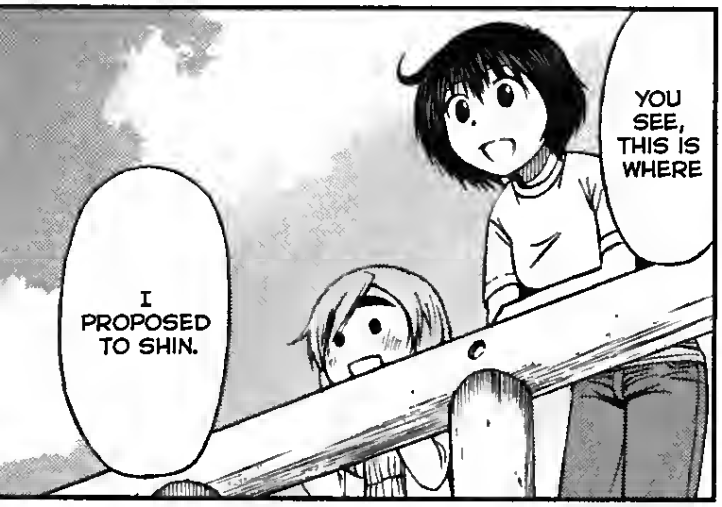


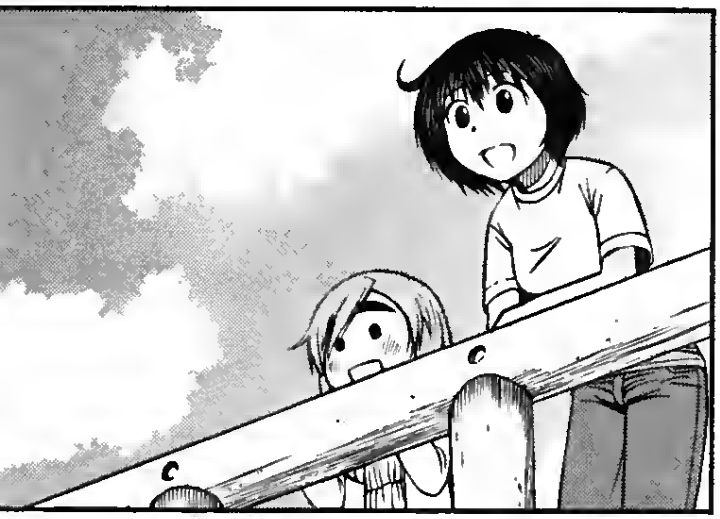
OH?

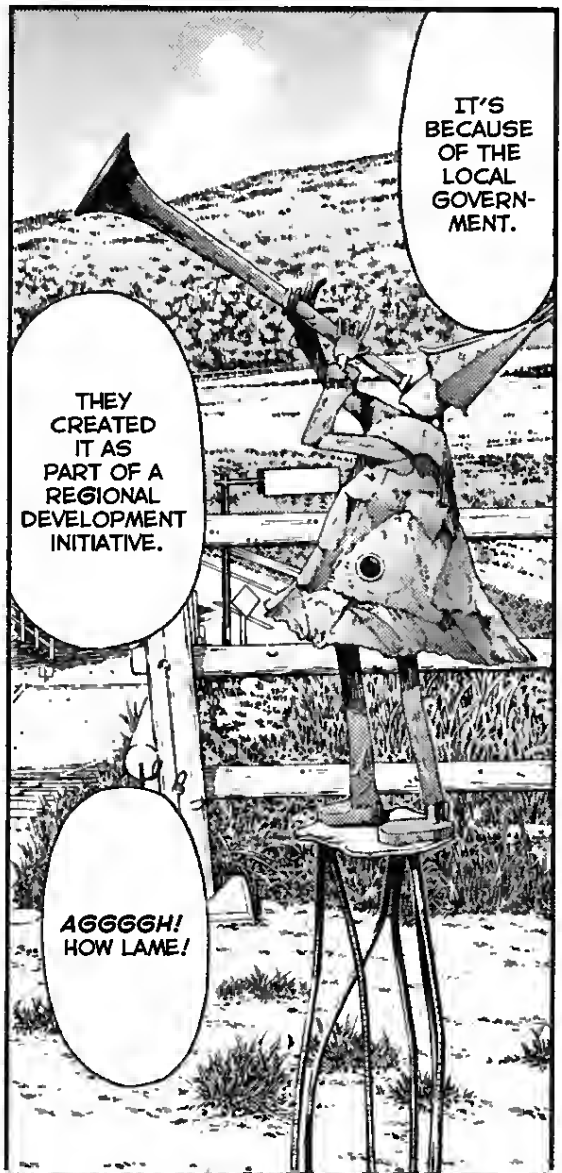

IT'S CALLED, "LOVE SHOUTING HILL".
LOVE SHOUTING HILL?

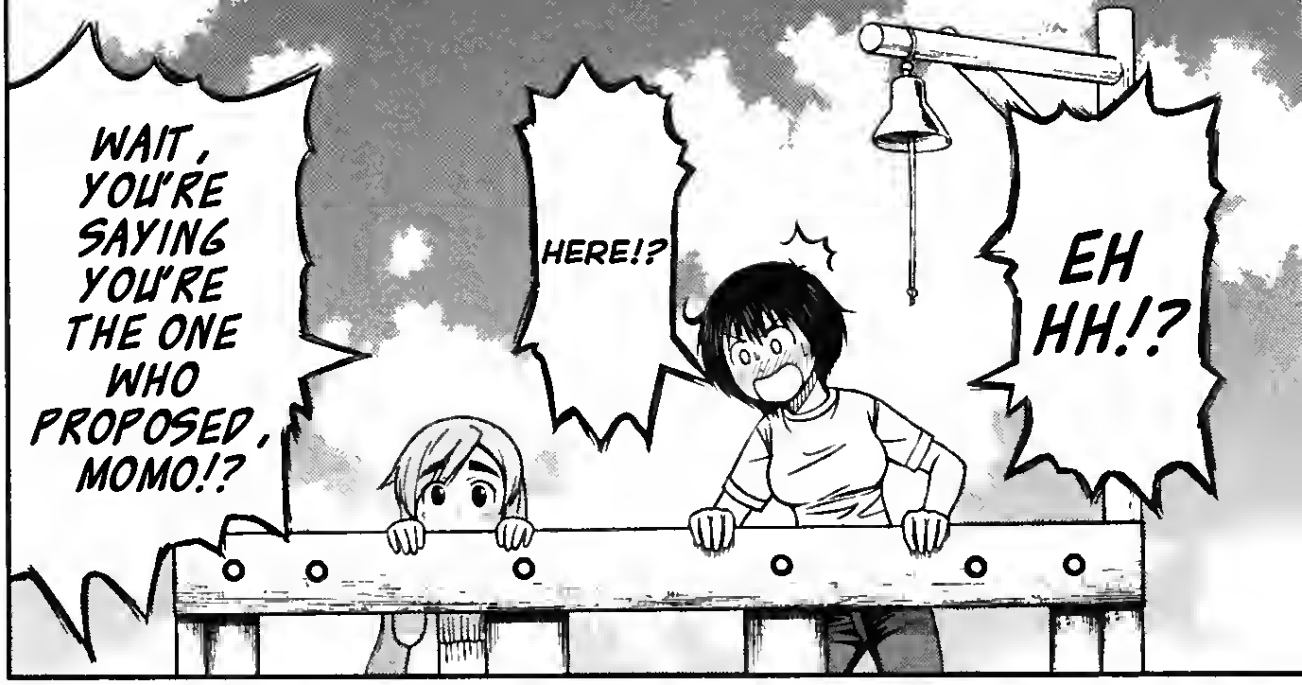
IT'S COOLER THAN I THOUGHT.
RIGHT?

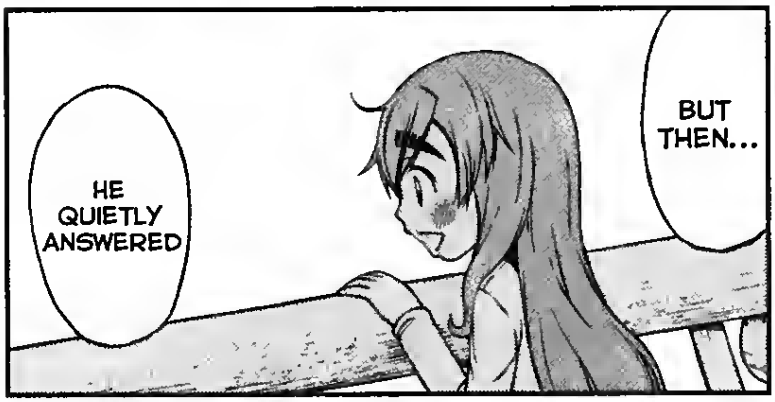
OHHH!


YOU SEE, THIS IS WHERE
I PROPOSED TO SHIN.

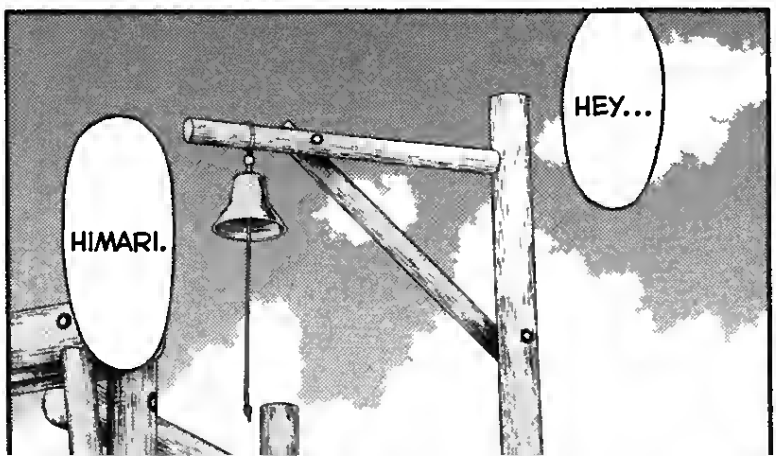



IT'S BECAUSE OF THE LOCAL GOVERN-MENT.
THEY CREATED IT AS PART OF A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE.
AGGGGH! HOW LAME!


WAIT, YOU'RE SAYING YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PROPOSED, MOMO!?
HERE!?
EH HH!?

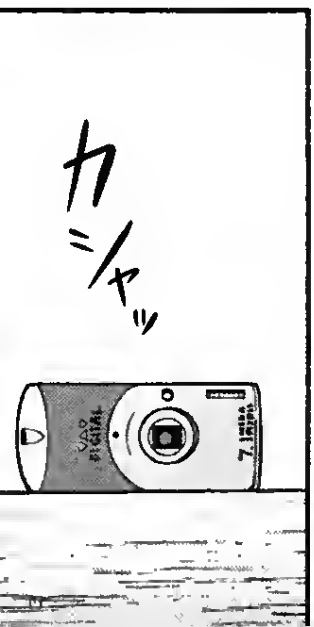

HE QUIETLY ANSWERED
BUT THEN...

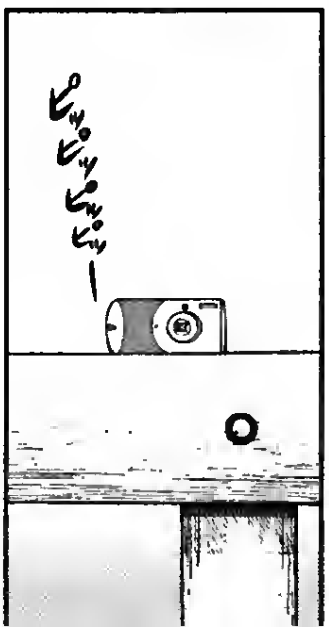
...
"YES."


HIMARI.
HEY...

YES.
I SAID, "PLEASE MARRY ME."
AT FIRST, SHIN WAS TAKEN ABACK.

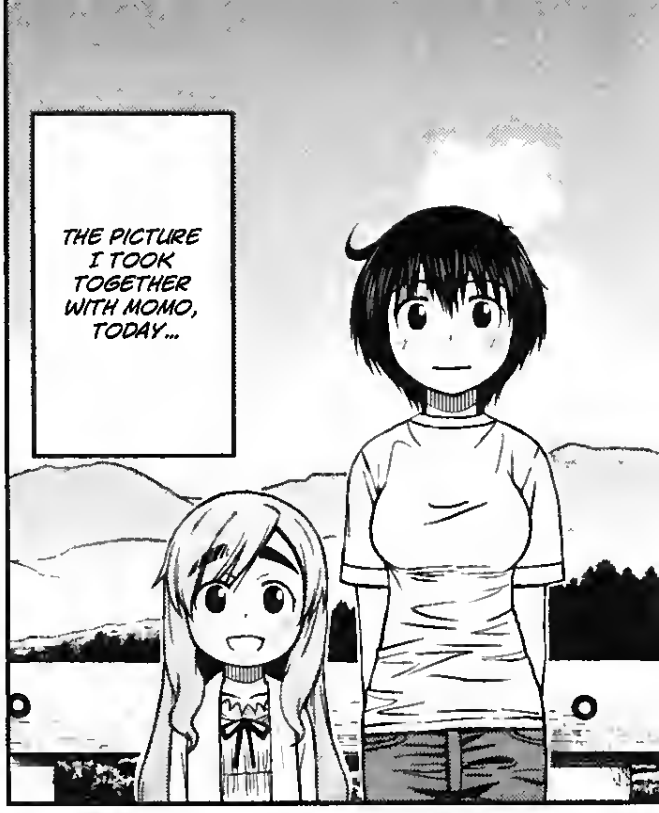
WOULD YOU...
TAKE A PICTURE OF ME, TOO?


カシャッ

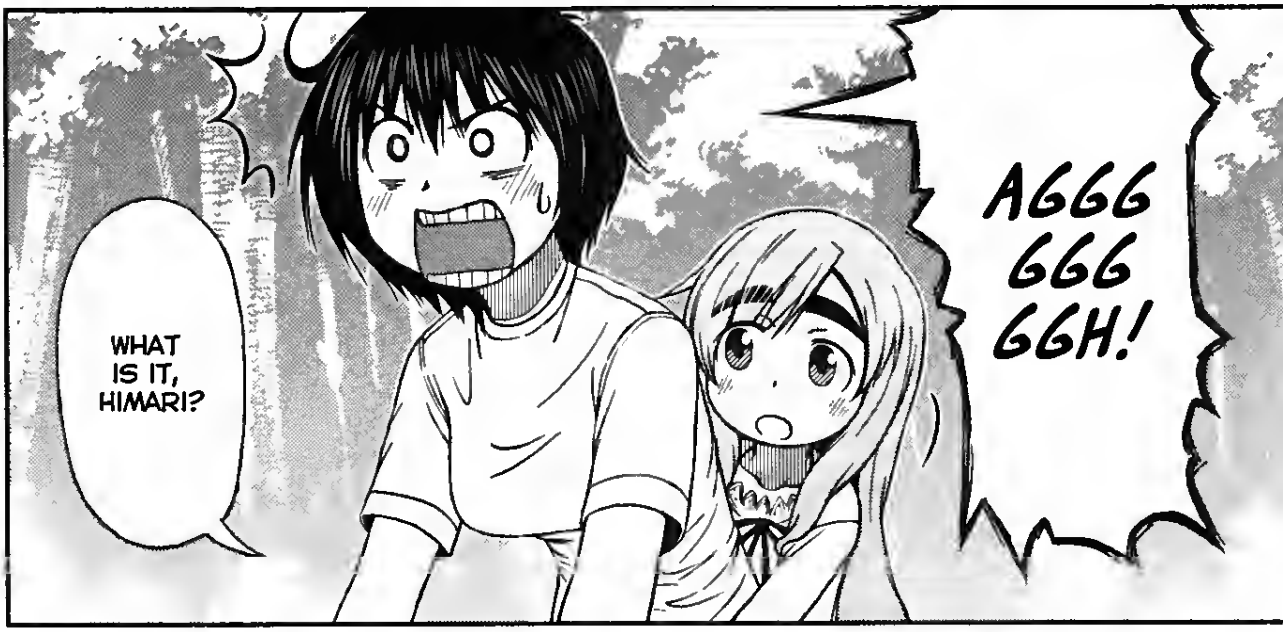

ピッピッピッピー

...OKAY.
WELL, SINCE WE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE...

I THINK I'LL SEND IT TO AKKI, TOO.

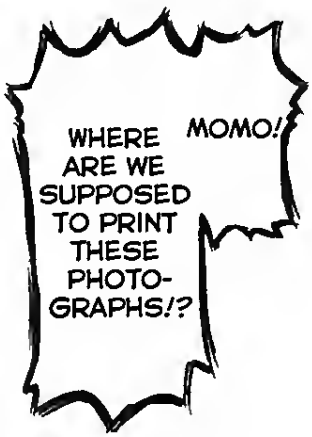

THE PICTURE I TOOK TOGETHER WITH MOMO, TODAY...

HUH?
...
I'LL ADD A NOTE THAT THIS PERSON IS OUR NEW "FAMILY".


WHAT IS IT, HIMARI?
AGGG GGG GGH!

AHH, GOSH, THIS IS WHY I CAN'T STAND THE COUNTRYSIDE!!
THERE AREN'T ANY PHOTO SHOPS, ARE THERE!?

UMM,
A PHOTO SHOP, I SUPPOSE?

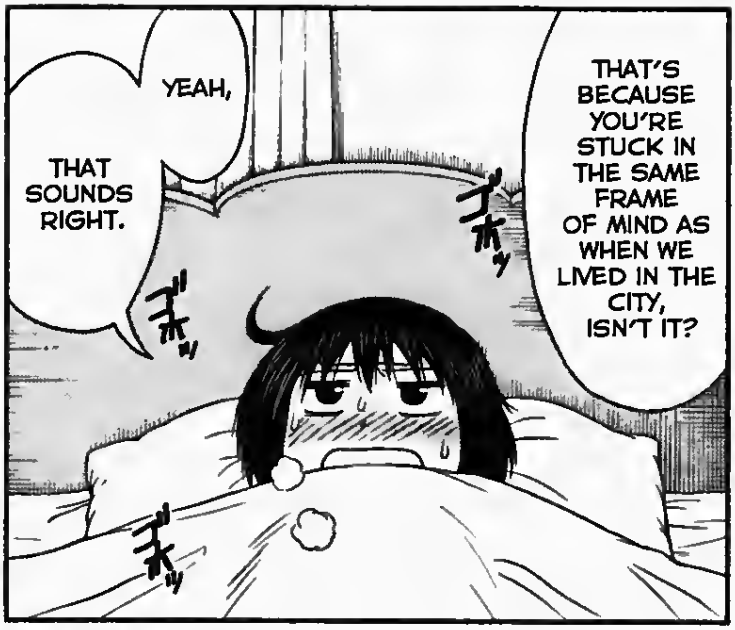

MOMO!
WHERE ARE WE SUPPOSED TO PRINT THESE PHOTO-GRAPHS!?

Chapter 9 Summer Cold

AGG GG GH!
AGG GG GH!
WHAT A PAIN!
ゴボッ
ゴボッ
ゴボッ
IT'S SUMMER, WHY DID I CATCH A COLD?
HOW UNBE-LIEV-ABLE.
ゴボッ
ゴボッ
ゴボッ
YOU CAUGHT THE COLD BECAUSE IT'S SUMMER, YOU KNOW.
SHUT UP!

BECAUSE WE'RE ON A PLATEAU.
THE COOL DAYS ARE PRETTY COLD EVEN IN THE SUMMER.
AND YOU WERE DRESSED RELATIVELY LIGHT FOR A DAY LIKE THAT, SIS.

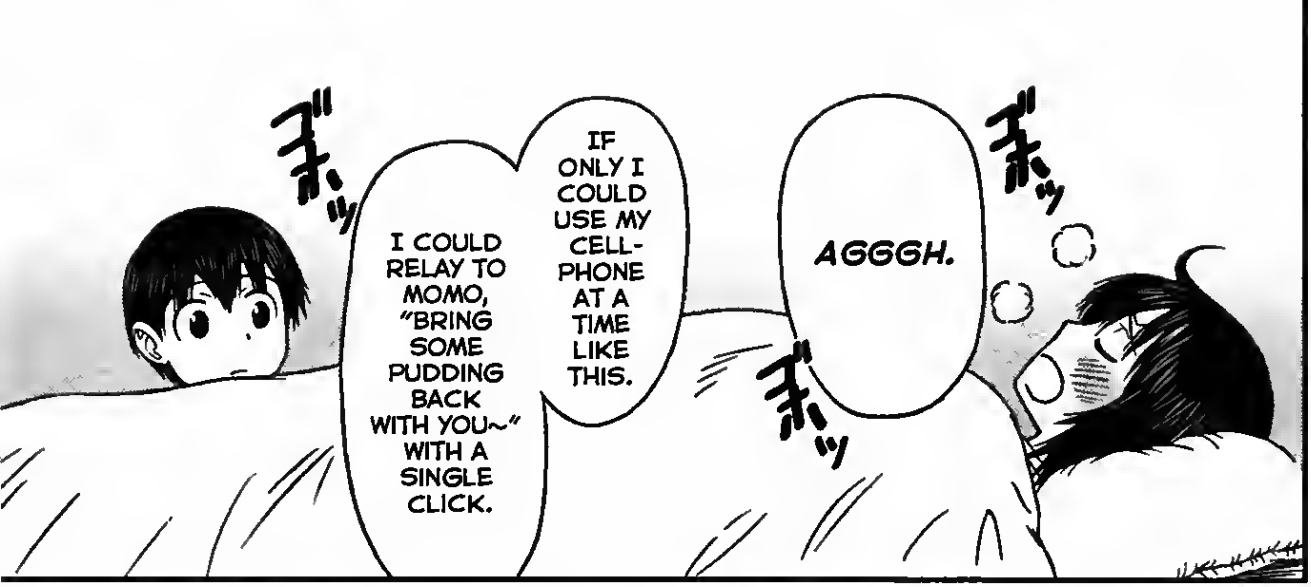
ALSO, I'VE HEARD THAT SUMMER COLDS ARE TOUGH TO GET OVER, SO YOU'D BETTER BE DETERMINED.
EH HH?!
Seriously?

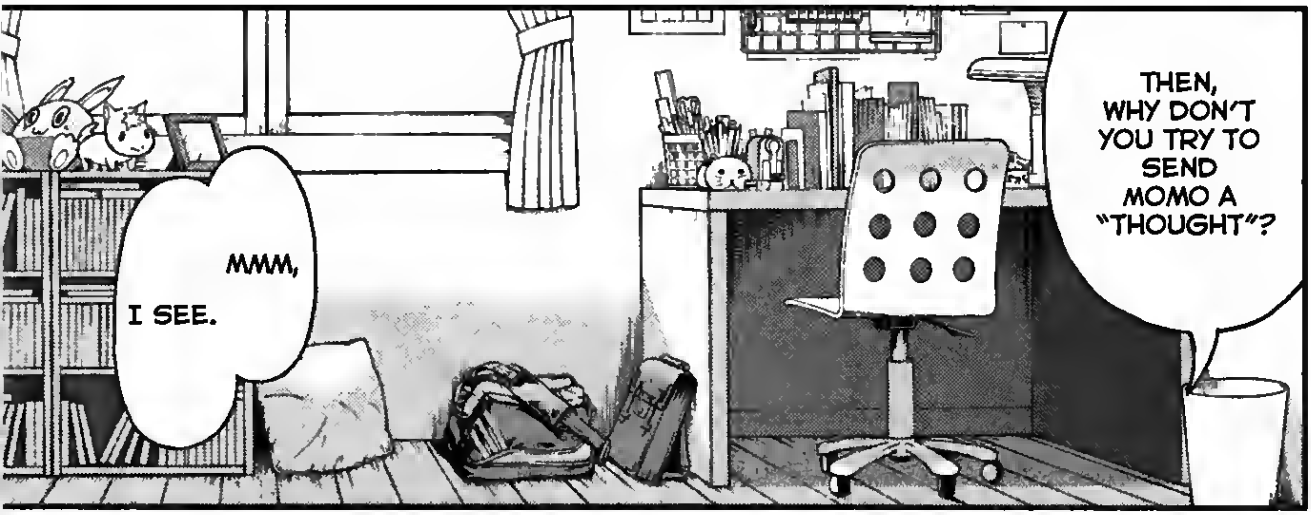

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE STUCK IN THE SAME FRAME OF MIND AS WHEN WE LIVED IN THE CITY, ISN'T IT?
YEAH, THAT SOUNDS RIGHT.
ゴホッ
ゴホッ
ゴホッ

I'VE HEARD THAT IF YOU PUT A GREEN ONION UP YOUR BUTT, YOU'LL GET OVER IT QUICKLY.
NO WAY I'M DOING SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
That surely can't be true

KOUTA.
DON'T YOU KNOW SOME METHOD TO CURE A COLD QUICKLY?
HUH?

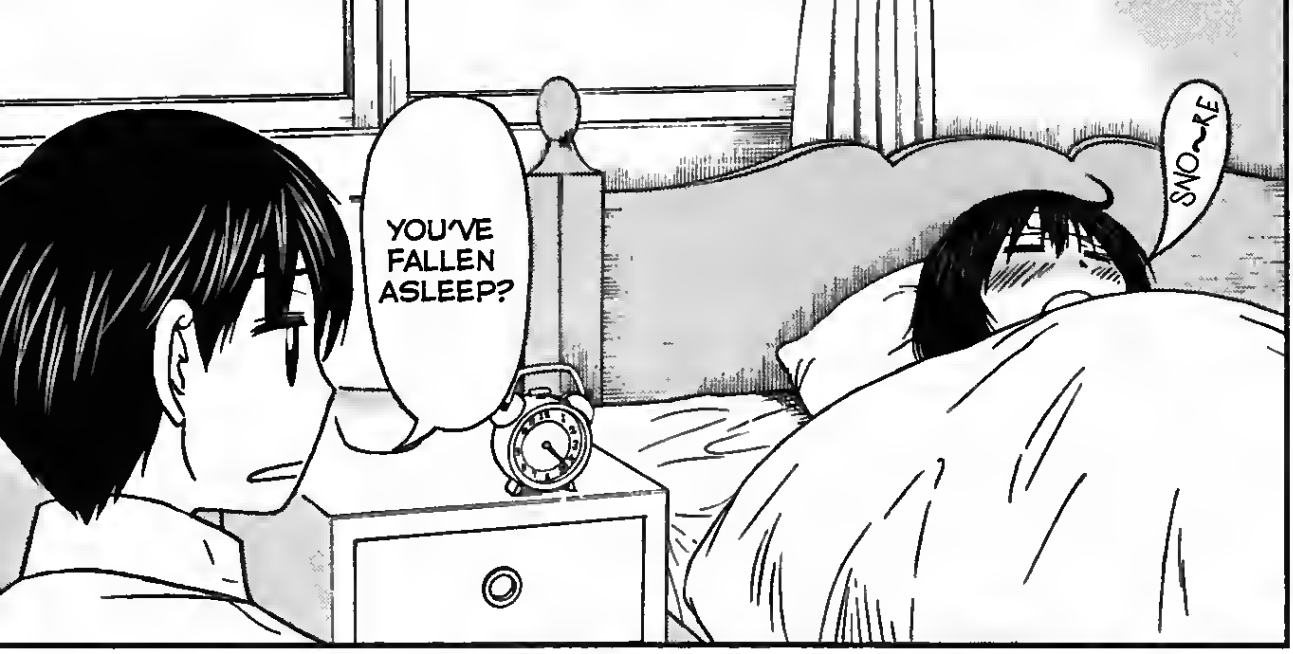
HEY, KOUTA?
WHAT?
WHERE'S MOMO?
SHE TOOK THE CAR OUT IN A HURRY EARLIER.
WHERE'D SHE GO?
WE WERE OUT OF COLD MEDICINE,
SO I GUESS SHE WENT TO BUY SOME AT HARUKAWA SUPER-MARKET
EH HH HH HH?!
SHE WENT TO HARU-KAWA?
DAMN I~T.
IF SHE WAS GOING TO HARUKAWA, I COULD'VE ASKED HER TO BRING SOME PUDDING BACK WITH HER, TOO.
SHEEEESH! WHY DIDN'T SHE TELL ME?
EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE A COLD, YOU WANT TO EAT PUD-DING?
THIS IS EXACTLY WHEN YOU SHOULD!
IDIOT!
DON'T LOOK DOWN ON PUDDING POWER!
UH-HUH.

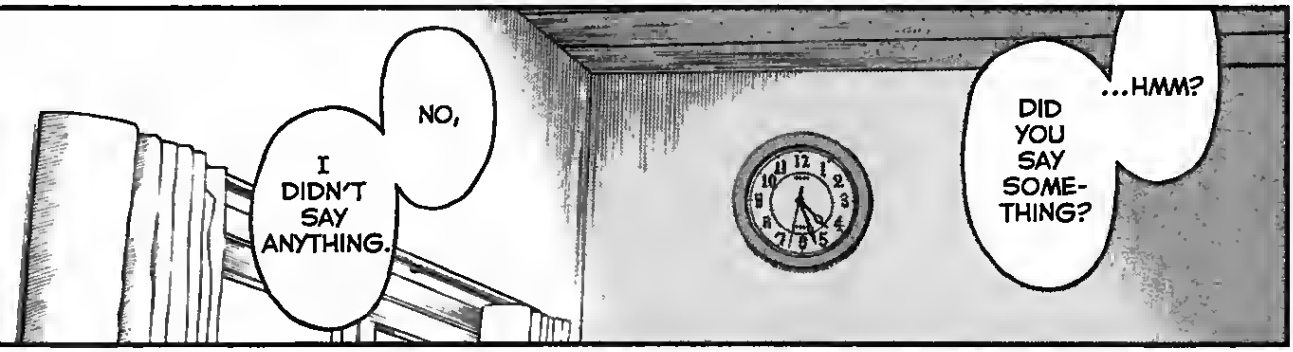

ゴボッ
I COULD RELAY TO MOMO, "BRING SOME PUDDING BACK WITH YOU~" WITH A SINGLE CLICK.
IF ONLY I COULD USE MY CELL-PHONE AT A TIME LIKE THIS.
AGGGH.
ゴボッ
ゴボッ


MMM, I SEE.
THEN, WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO SEND MOMO A "THOUGHT"?

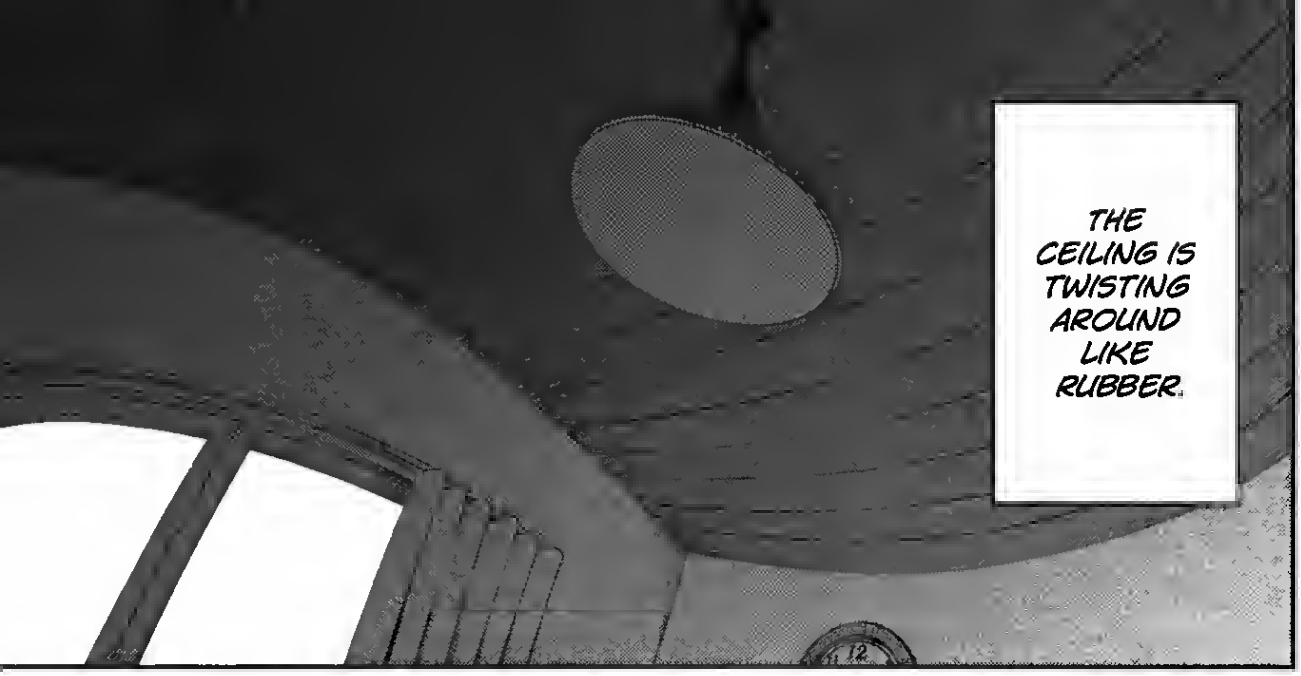
YOU'RE THINKING I'M AN IDIOT, AREN'T YOU, JERK.
...NOT PART-ICU-LARLY.
MOMO, BUY PUDDING.
MOMO, BUY PUDDING.

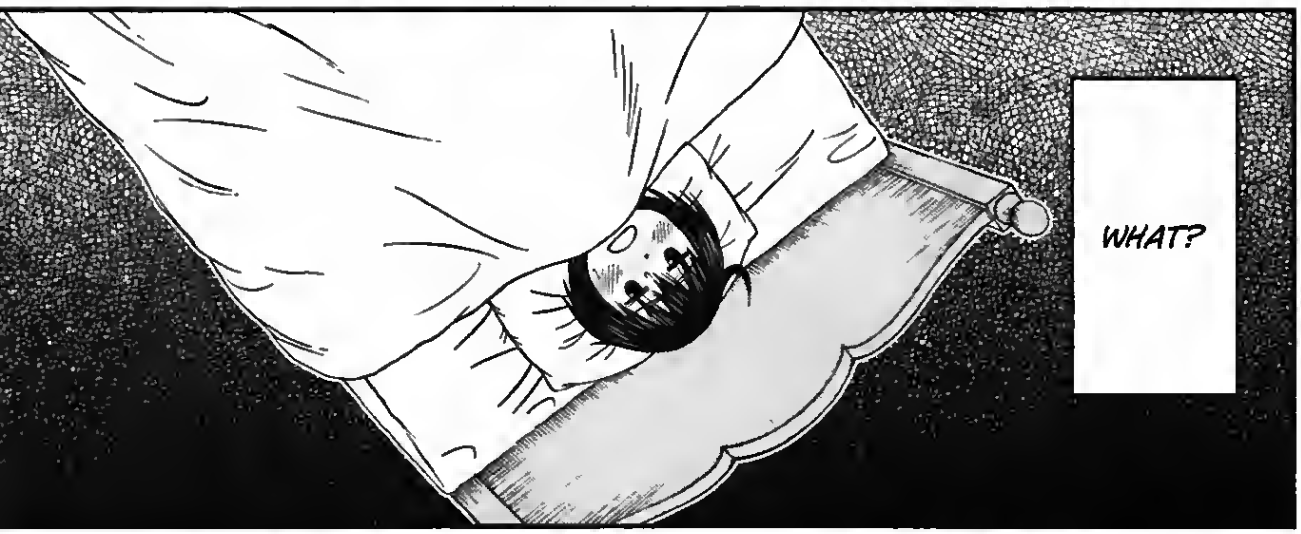
YOU CAN GO BACK TO THE LIVING ROOM ALREADY.
IT'LL BE NO GOOD IF YOU CATCH MY COLD.
KOUTA.
WHAT?
I'M FINE.
MOMO TOLD ME
TO WATCH OVER YOU UNTIL SHE GETS BACK.
IS THAT RIGHT?
TALK WITH ME A LITTLE.
OKAY.
WELL,
SINCE THERE'S NOTHING TO DO...


YOU'VE FALLEN ASLEEP?
SNORE


NO, I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.
...HMM? DID YOU SAY SOME-THING?

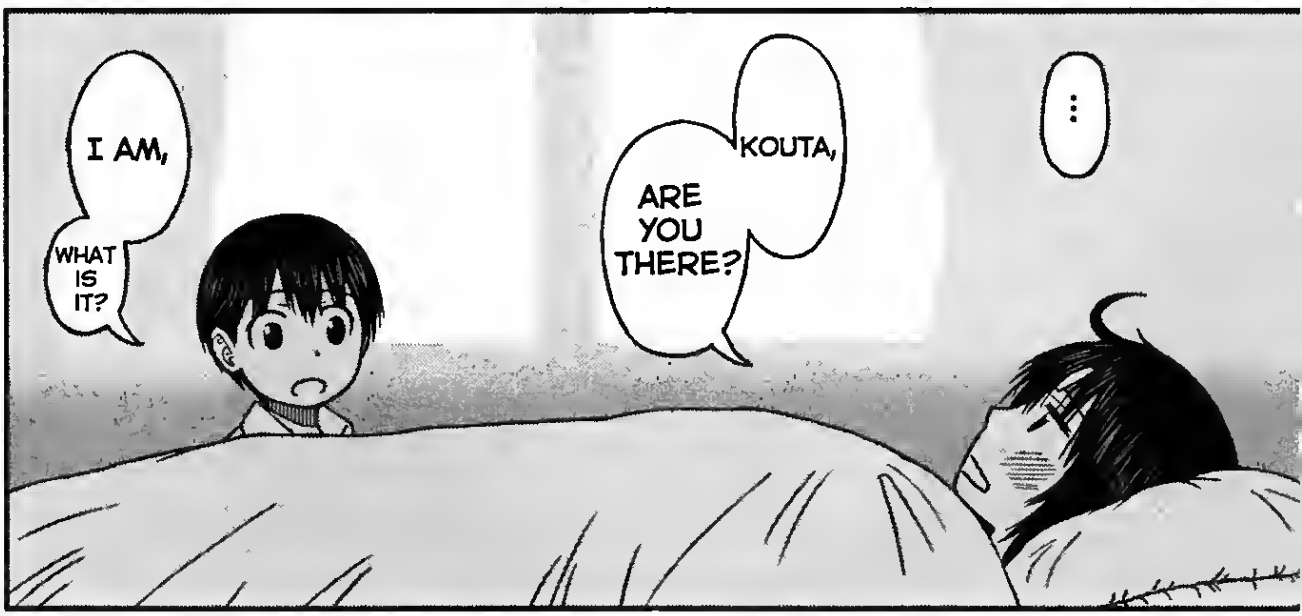
ひまり
...DROWSY.

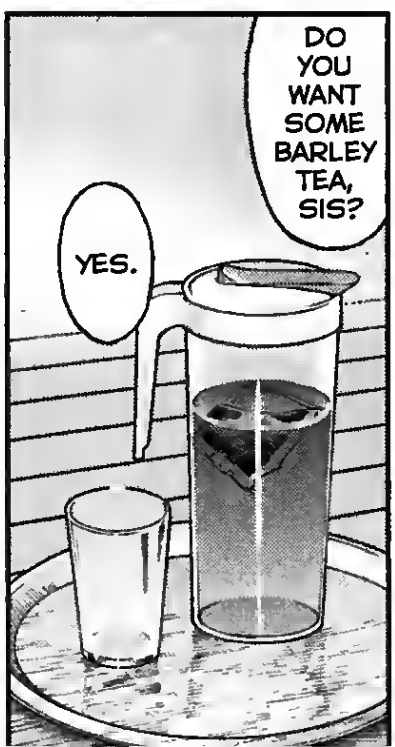

THE CEILING IS TWISTING AROUND LIKE RUBBER.


WHAT?

AAA AAA AAA...

I'M GONNA FALL...


I AM,
WHAT IS IT?
KOUTA, ARE YOU THERE?
...

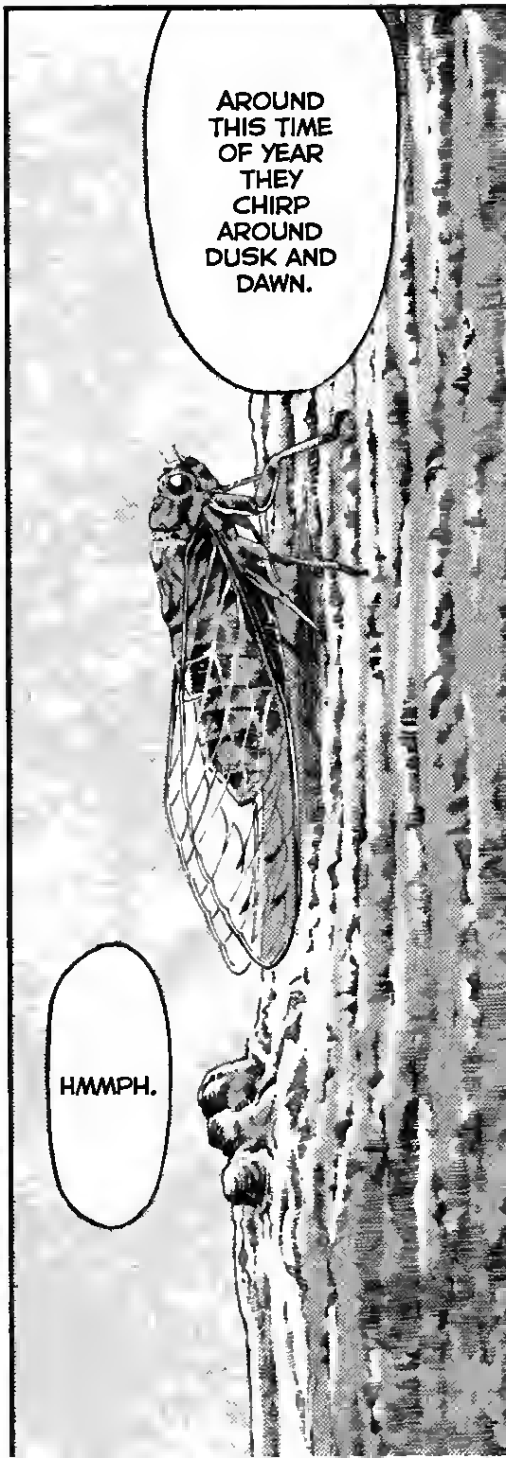

DO YOU WANT SOME BARLEY TEA, SIS?
YES.

NOTHING.
?

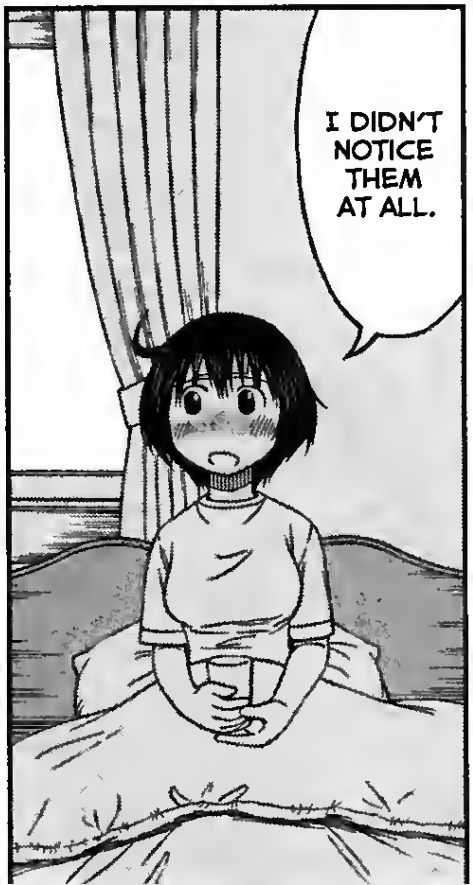
AHH, DELI-CIOUS...
HA AA AA~
ゴク
ゴク
カナカナカナカナカナ...
WHAT'S THAT CHIRPING?
EH?
カナカナカナ
カナカナカナ...

IT'S THE EVENING CICADA.
IS THAT A BIRD?
HIGU-RASHI?
AH, THAT'S THE HIGURASHI.

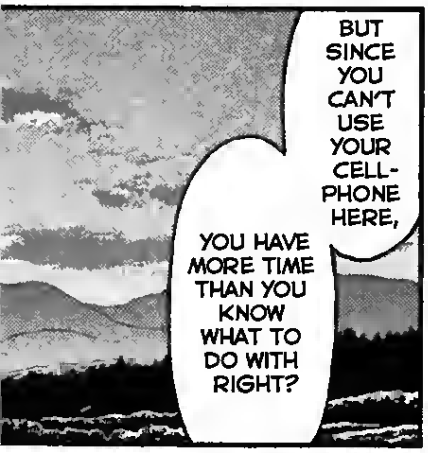
HUH? THAT SO?
LIKE IN THE FOREST NEAR THE ELEM-ENTARY SCHOOL.
THEY CHIRPED WHEN WE LIVED IN THE CITY, TOO.


AROUND THIS TIME OF YEAR THEY CHIRP AROUND DUSK AND DAWN.
HMMPH.

ナナナナナナナナナ

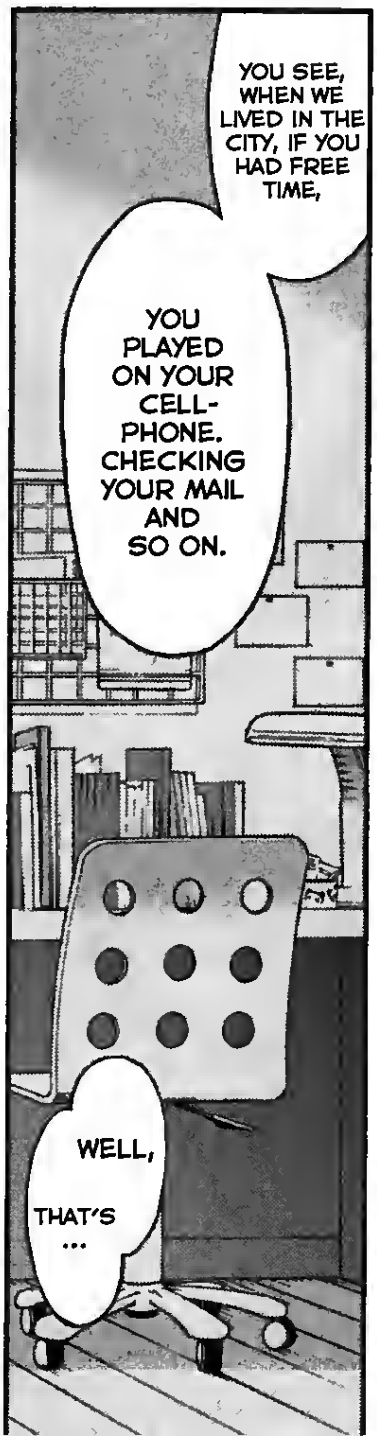

I DIDN'T NOTICE THEM AT ALL.

...

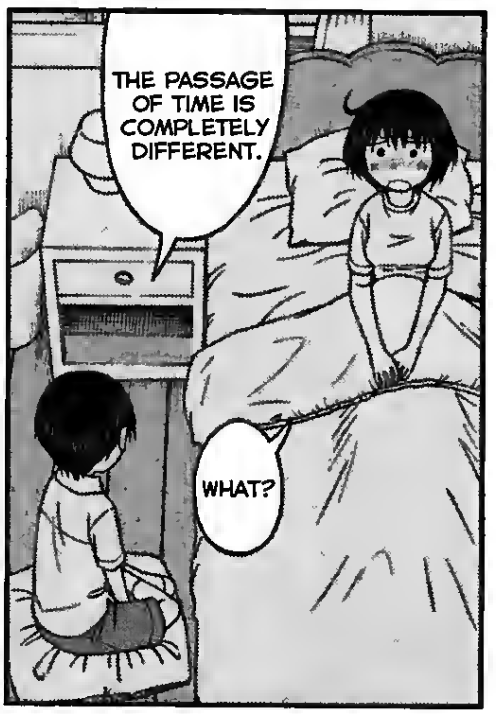

BUT SINCE YOU CAN'T USE YOUR CELL-PHONE HERE,
YOU HAVE MORE TIME THAN YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH RIGHT?

WHEN WE JUST GOT HERE I WAS CONFUSED TOO
ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD BE DOING.

SOMEHOW... I WONDER IF IT'S FINE TO NOT DO ANYTHING.
WHAT?

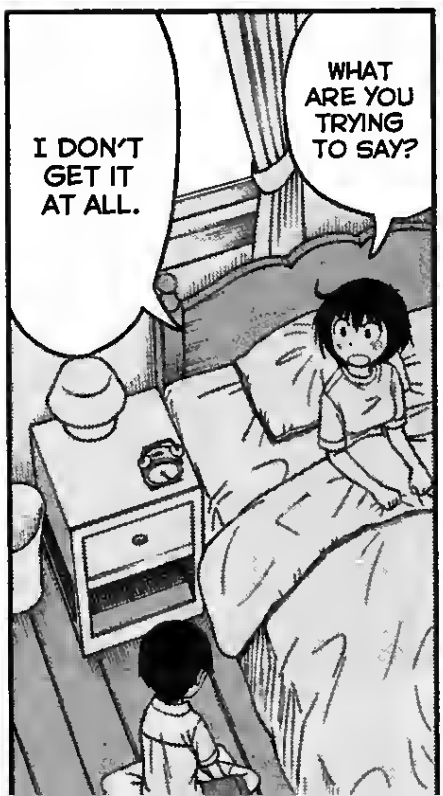

YOU SEE, WHEN WE LIVED IN THE CITY, IF YOU HAD FREE TIME,
YOU PLAYED ON YOUR CELL-PHONE. CHECKING YOUR MAIL AND SO ON.
WELL, THAT'S ...

...
AROUND HERE...


THE PASSAGE OF TIME IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
WHAT?

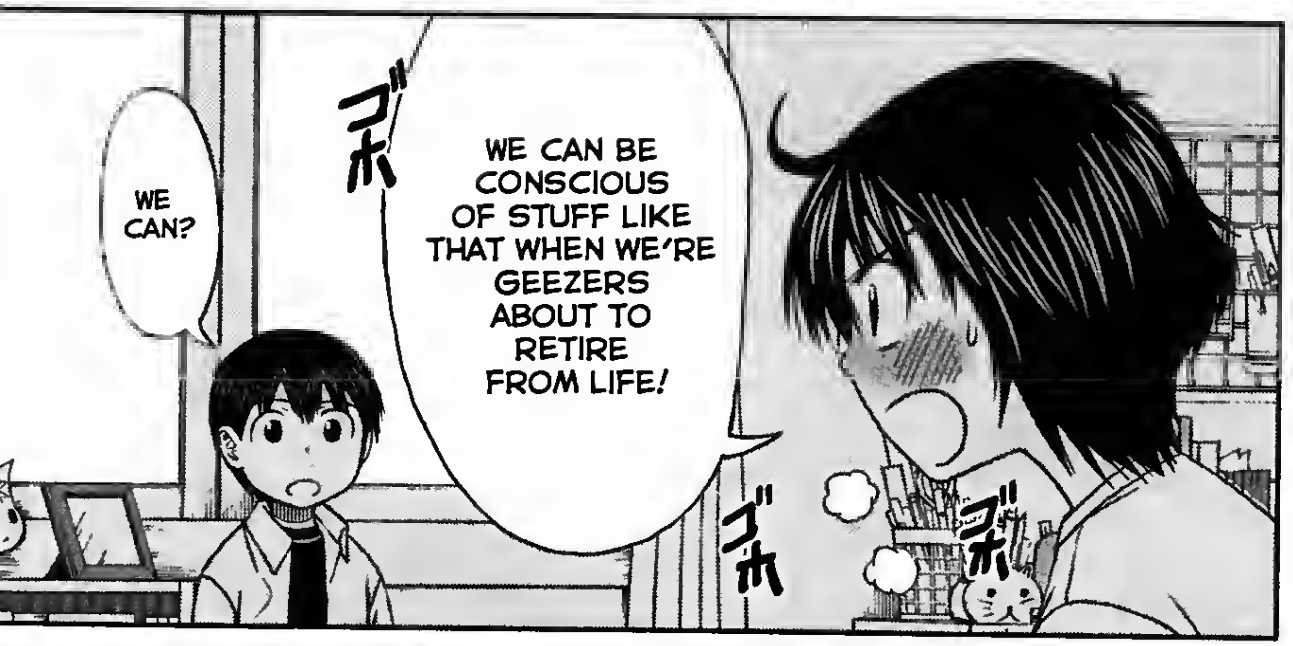
WE'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THE HIGURASHI.
LIKE, RIGHT NOW.

I THINK THAT'S PROBABLY
SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT.


WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
I DON'T GET IT AT ALL.

THE PASSAGE OF TIME HERE-
I THINK THAT IT'S FINE AS IT IS.

MORE IMPORTANTLY,
YOU'VE ALREADY BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO THE SLOW LIFE AROUND HERE, IDIOT?
THAT'S WAY TOO QUICK!


WE CAN?
WE CAN BE CONSCIOUS OF STUFF LIKE THAT WHEN WE'RE GEEZERS ABOUT TO RETIRE FROM LIFE!
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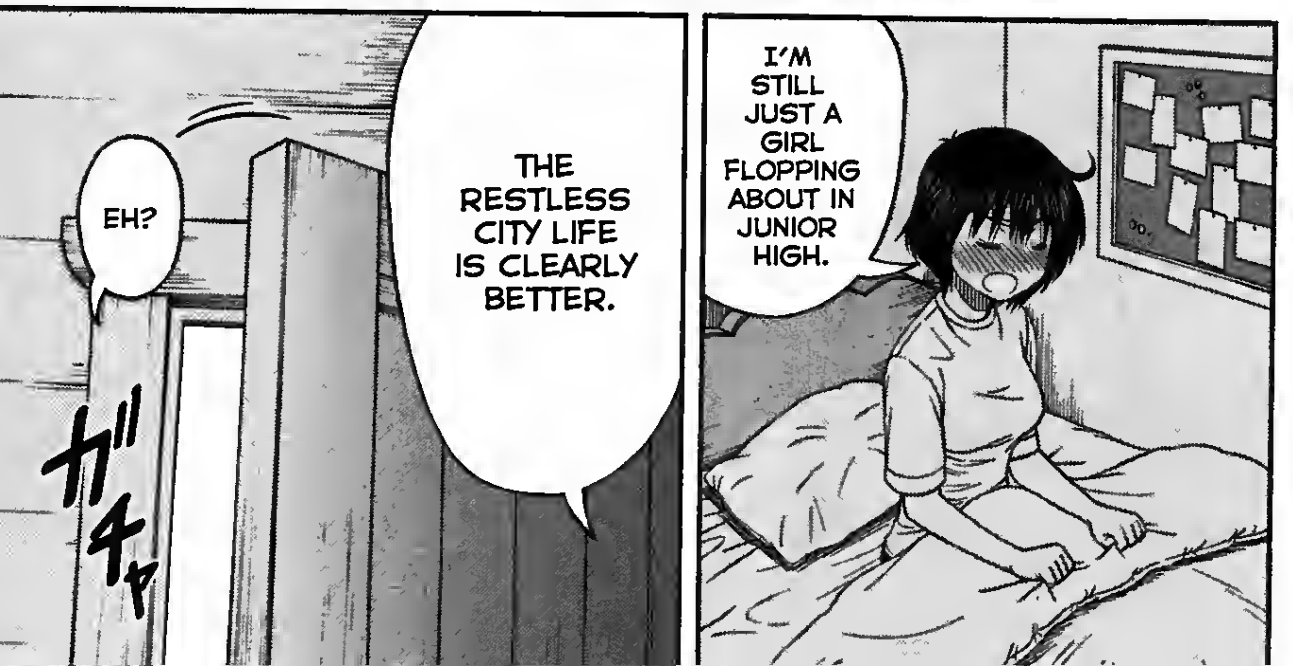
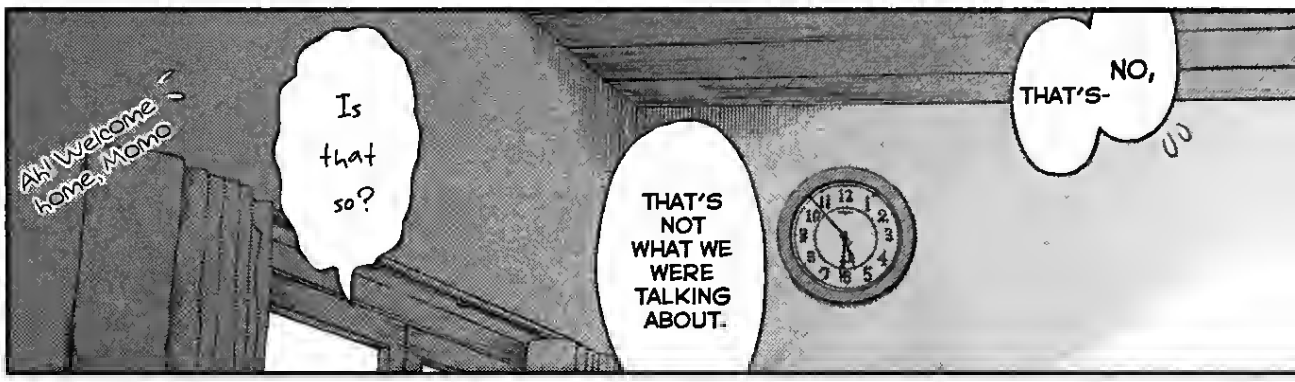
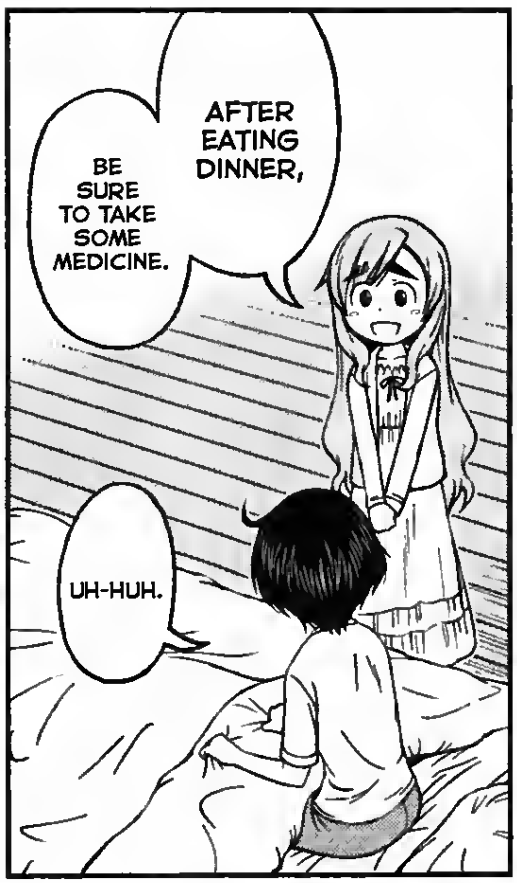

I'M STILL JUST A GIRL FLOPPING ABOUT IN JUNIOR HIGH.
THE RESTLESS CITY LIFE IS CLEARLY BETTER.
EH?
ガチャ

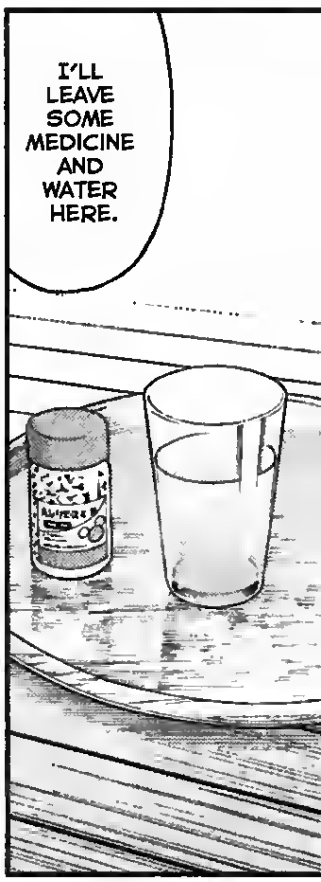
OH, MOMO.
You want to go back to Tokyo, Himari?


Ah! Welcome home, Momo
Is that so?
THAT'S NOT WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT.
NO, THAT'S-

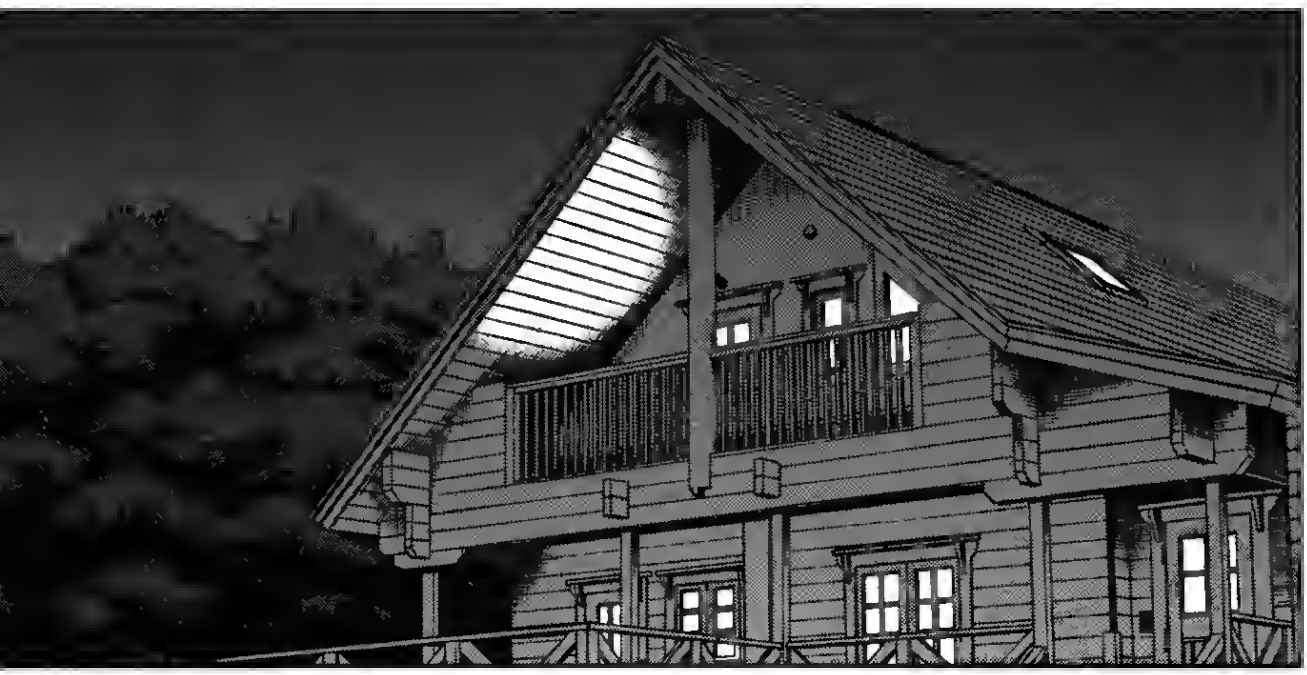
DON'T REALLY FEEL LIKE EATING.
BUT, RIGHT NOW, I...

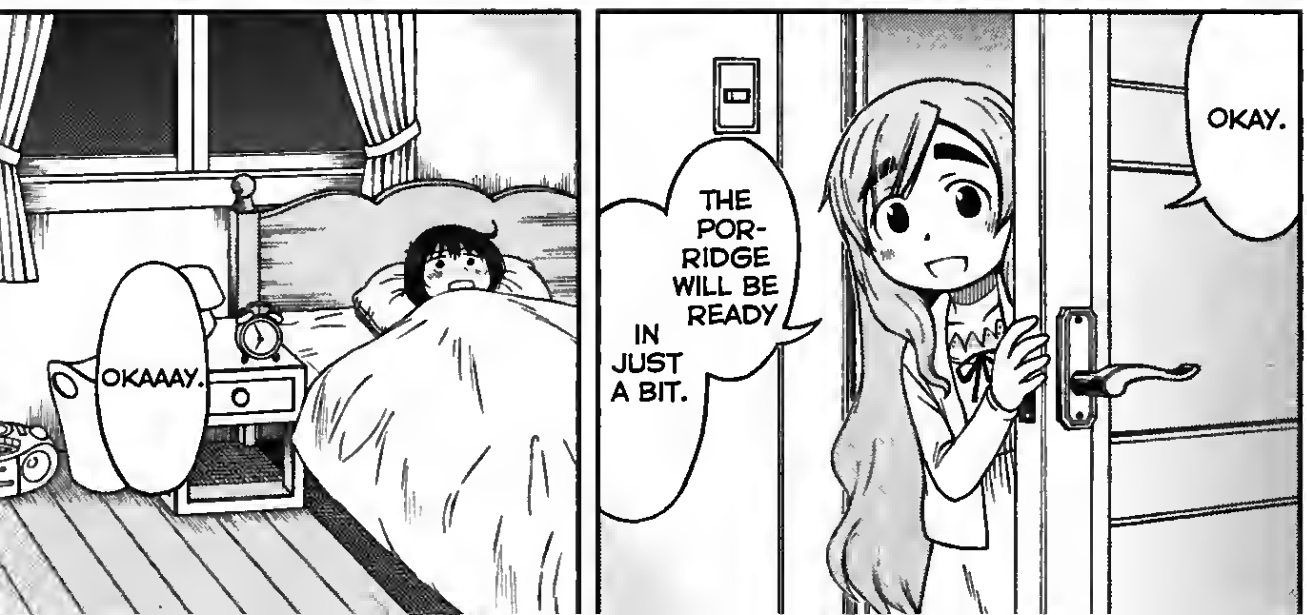
NO!


BE SURE TO TAKE SOME MEDICINE.
AFTER EATING DINNER,
UH-HUH.


I'LL LEAVE SOME MEDICINE AND WATER HERE.

YOU HAVE TO EAT PROP-ERLY.
ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU'RE SICK.
I'M SORRY.

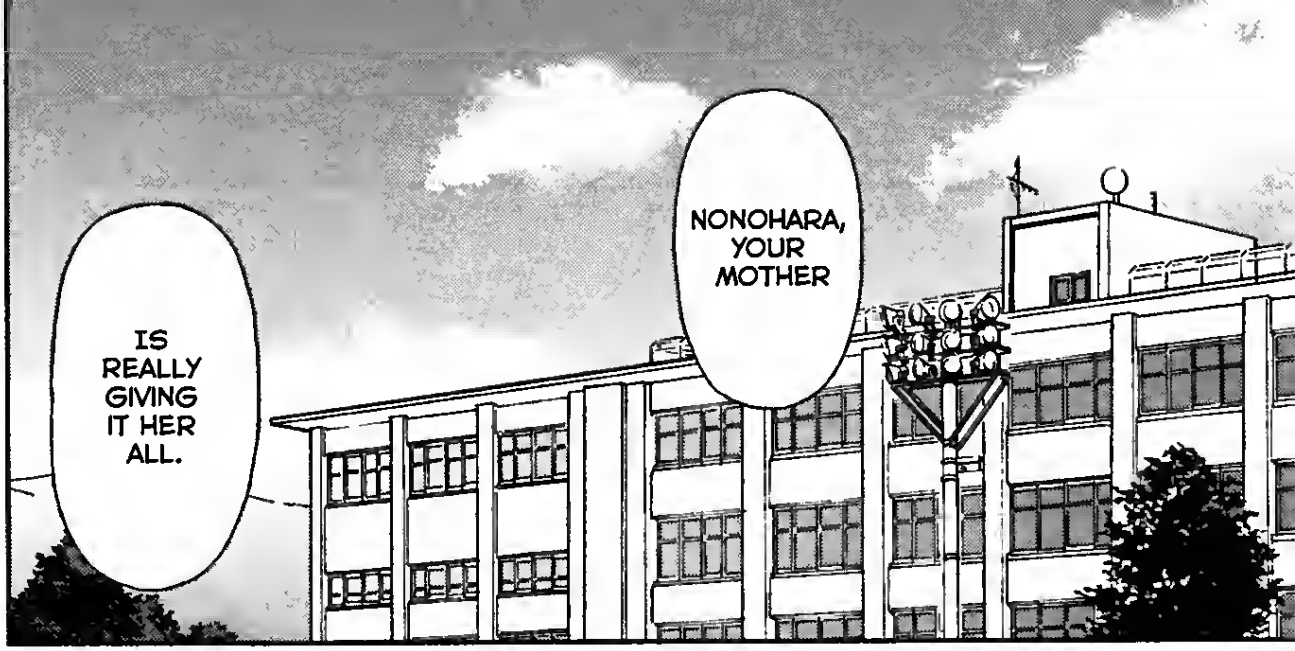


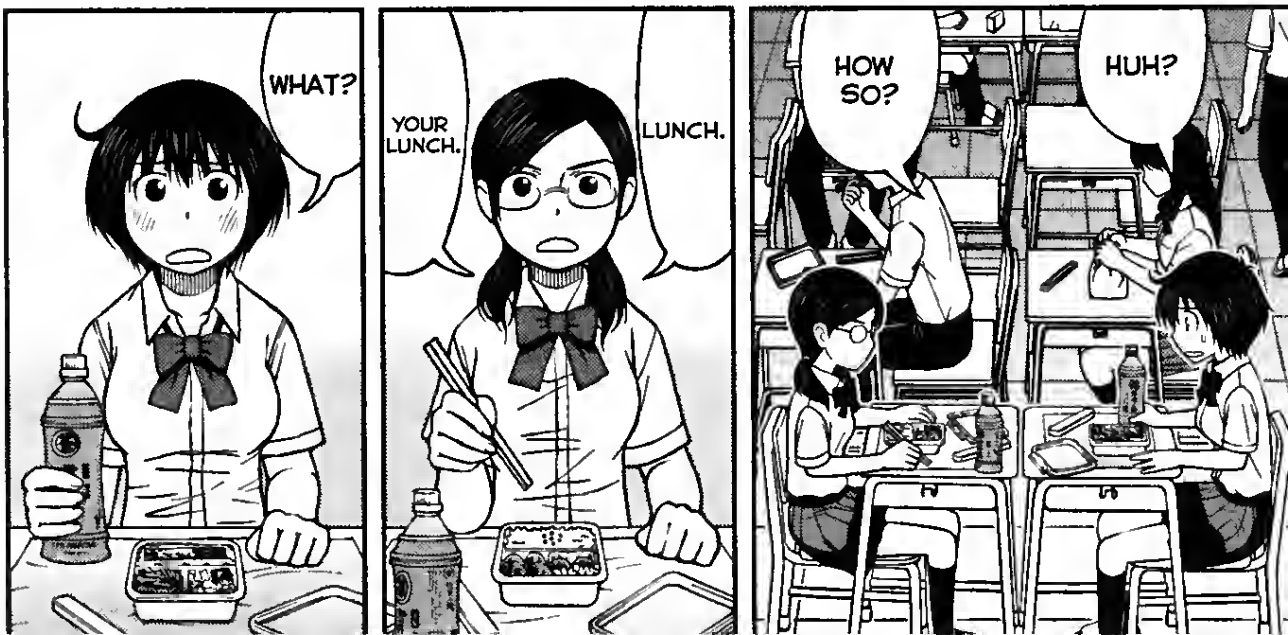

OKAY.
THE POR-RIDGE WILL BE READY IN JUST A BIT.
OKAAAY.

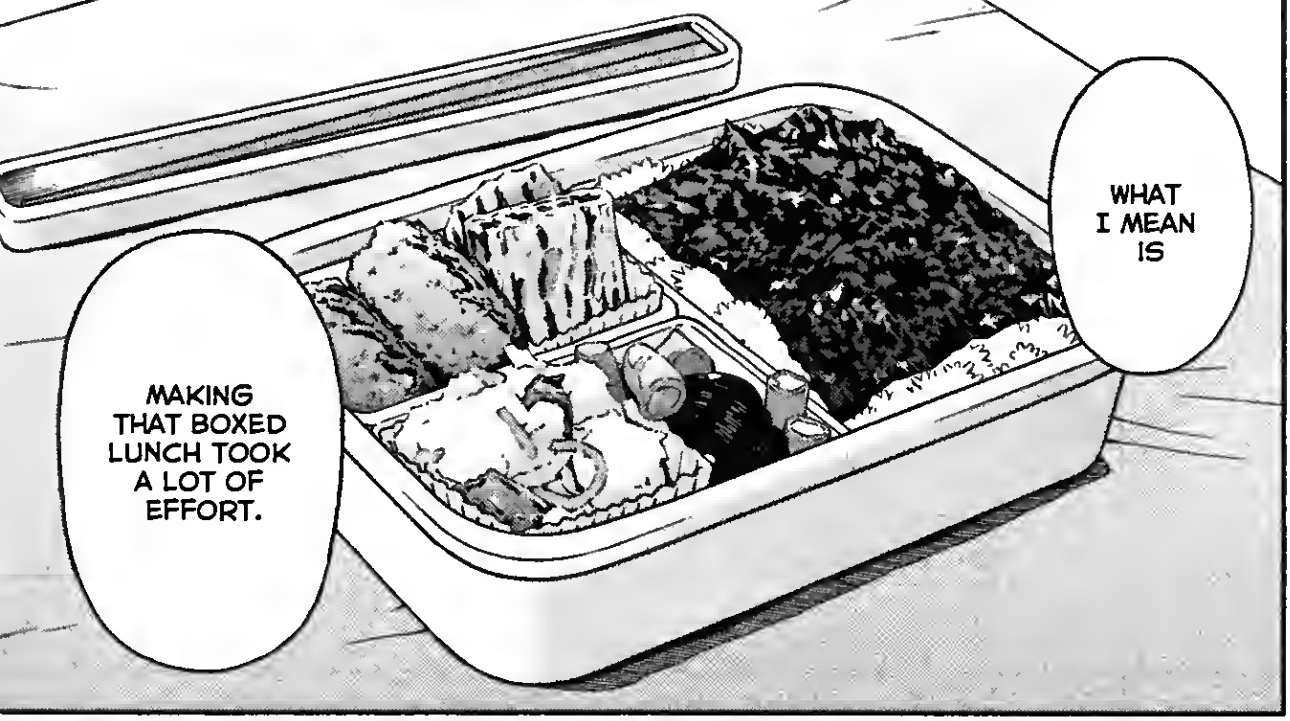
AH,
THAT'S RI~GHT.
I BOUGHT SOME PUDDING AT HARUKAWA, SO...
WHY DON'T THE THREE OF US EAT IT LATER?

MOMO, THANK YOU~
AH! PERHAPS, THE "THOUGHT" I SENT EARLIER MADE IT THROUGH?
HUH? WHAT THOUGHT?
??

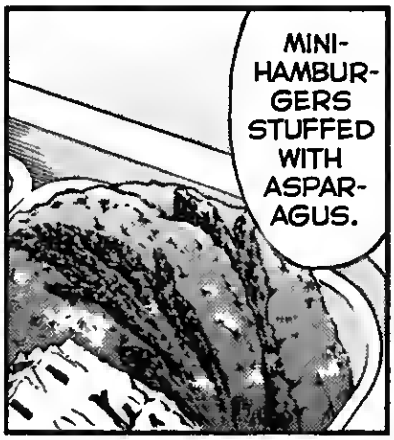
Chapter 10 Lunch

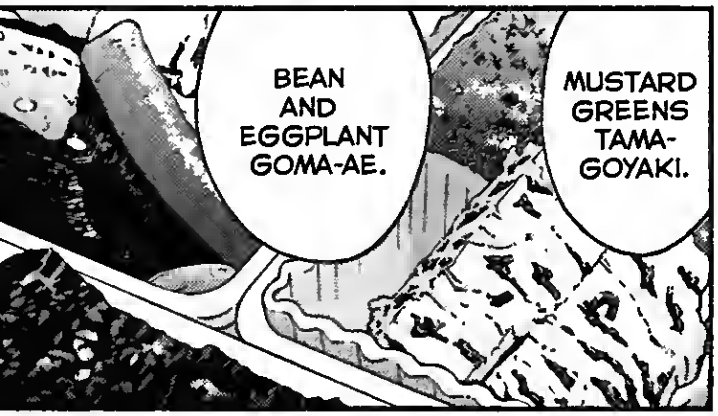

NONOHARA, YOUR MOTHER
IS REALLY GIVING IT HER ALL.

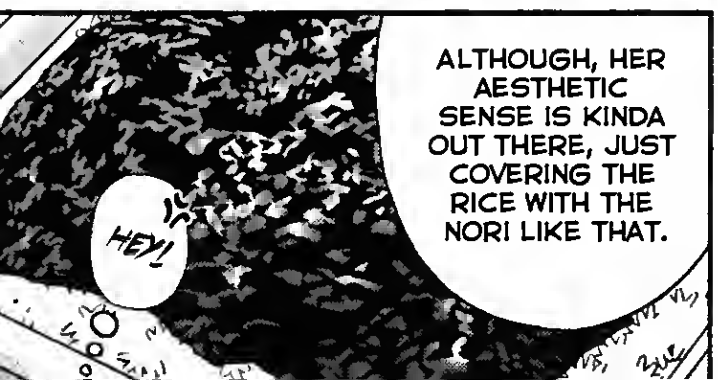

WHAT?
YOUR LUNCH.
LUNCH.
HOW SO?
HUH?


MAKING THAT BOXED LUNCH TOOK A LOT OF EFFORT.
WHAT I MEAN IS

HAND-MADE POTATO SALAD.

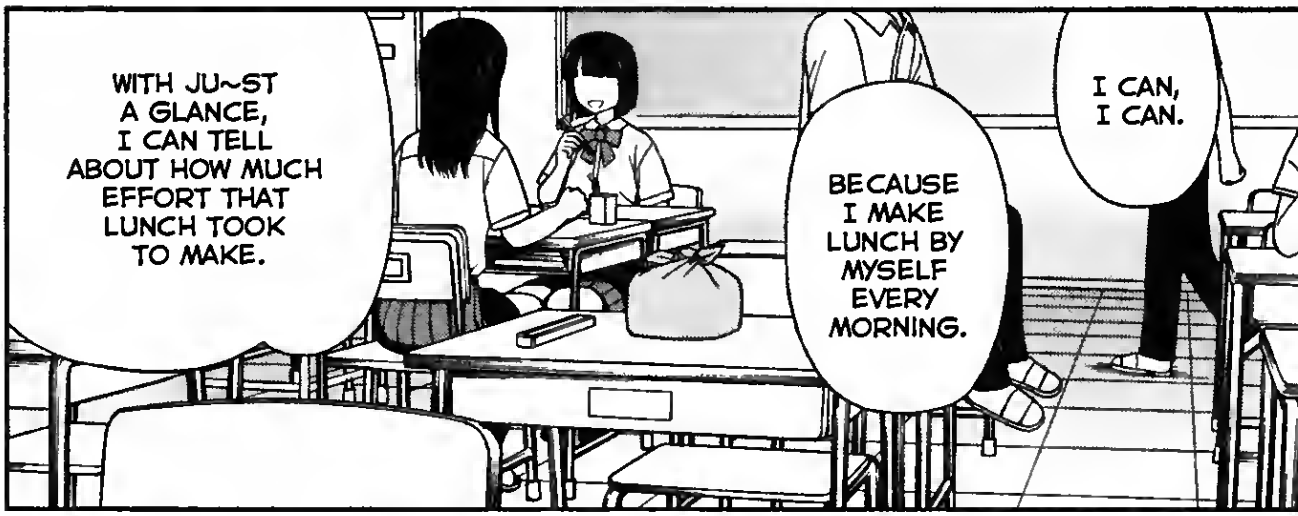

MINI-HAMBUR-GERS STUFFED WITH ASPAR-AGUS.

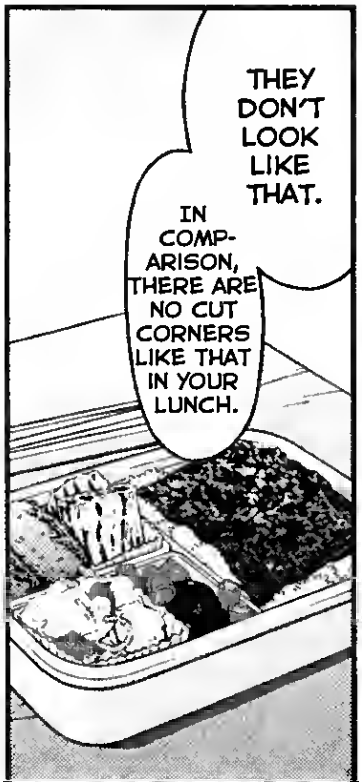

BEAN AND EGGPLANT GOMA-AE.
MUSTARD GREENS TAMA-GOYAKI.


HEY!
ALTHOUGH, HER AESTHETIC SENSE IS KINDA OUT THERE, JUST COVERING THE RICE WITH THE NORI LIKE THAT.

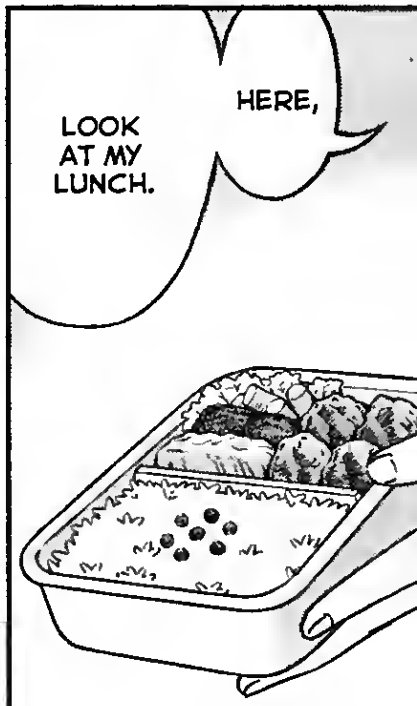
EH?
IT... DID?
AFTER ALL...

SHE REAAALLY WORKED HER HARDEST WHEN
SHE MADE THAT.
YOU CAN TELL SOMETHING LIKE THAT JUST BY LOOKING AT IT?


WITH JU~ST A GLANCE, I CAN TELL ABOUT HOW MUCH EFFORT THAT LUNCH TOOK TO MAKE.
BECAUSE I MAKE LUNCH BY MYSELF EVERY MORNING.
I CAN, I CAN.


THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT.
IN COMP-ARISON, THERE ARE NO CUT CORNERS LIKE THAT IN YOUR LUNCH.

OHHHH?
ALL OF THESE SIDE DISHES ARE FROZEN FOOD.

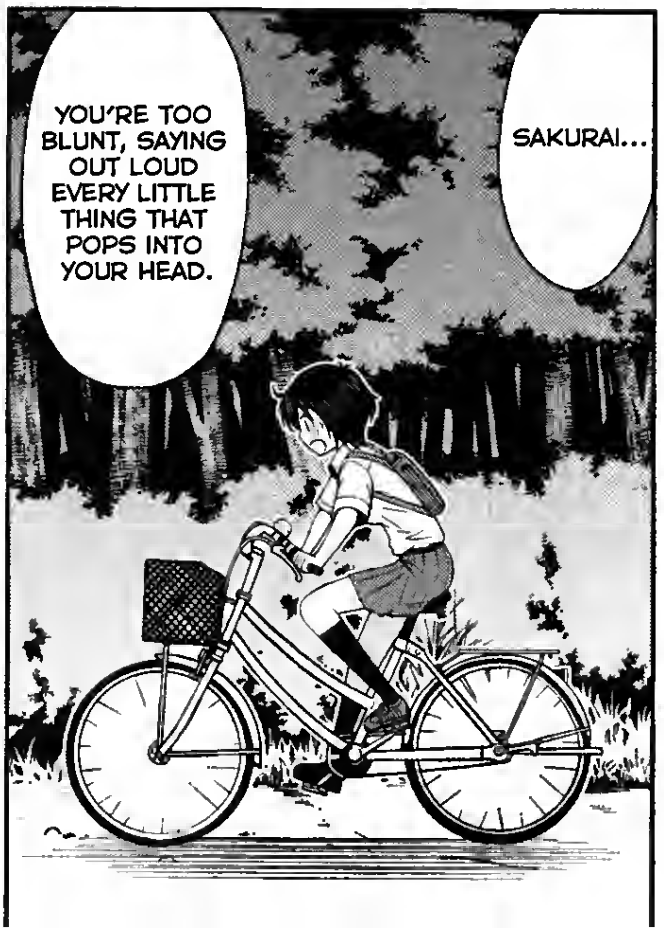

HERE, LOOK AT MY LUNCH.

...
UH-HUH...
YOU REALLY NEED TO THANK HER,
NONOHARA.

...
SHEESH. ENOUGH.

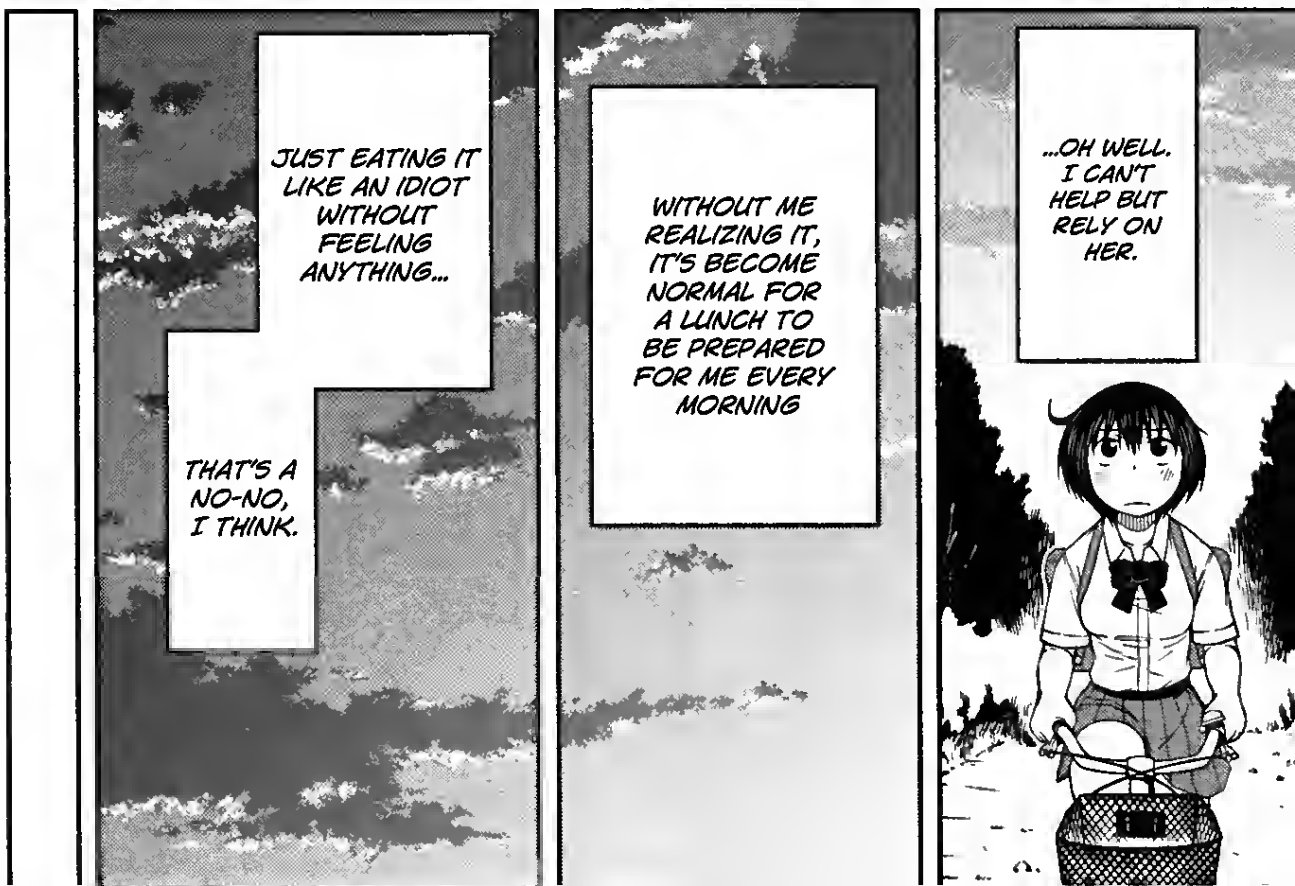
...

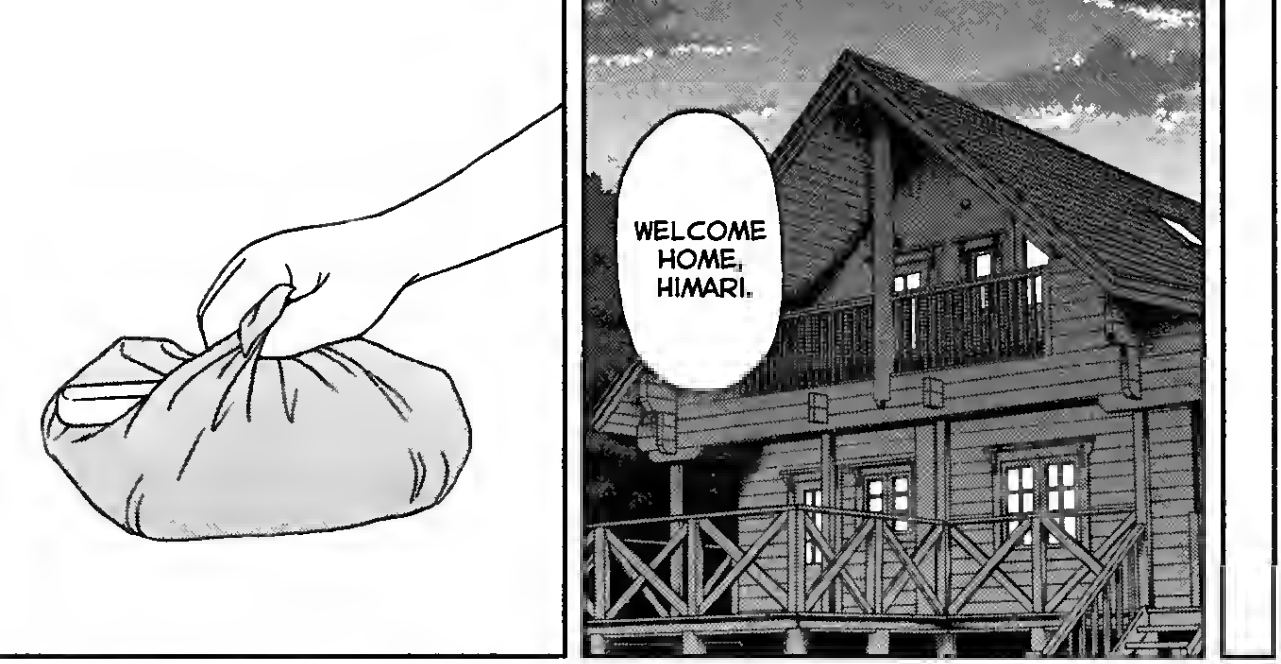
I FEEL A BIT DISCOURAGED.
HOWEVER...


YOU'RE TOO BLUNT, SAYING OUT LOUD EVERY LITTLE THING THAT POPS INTO YOUR HEAD.
SAKURAI...

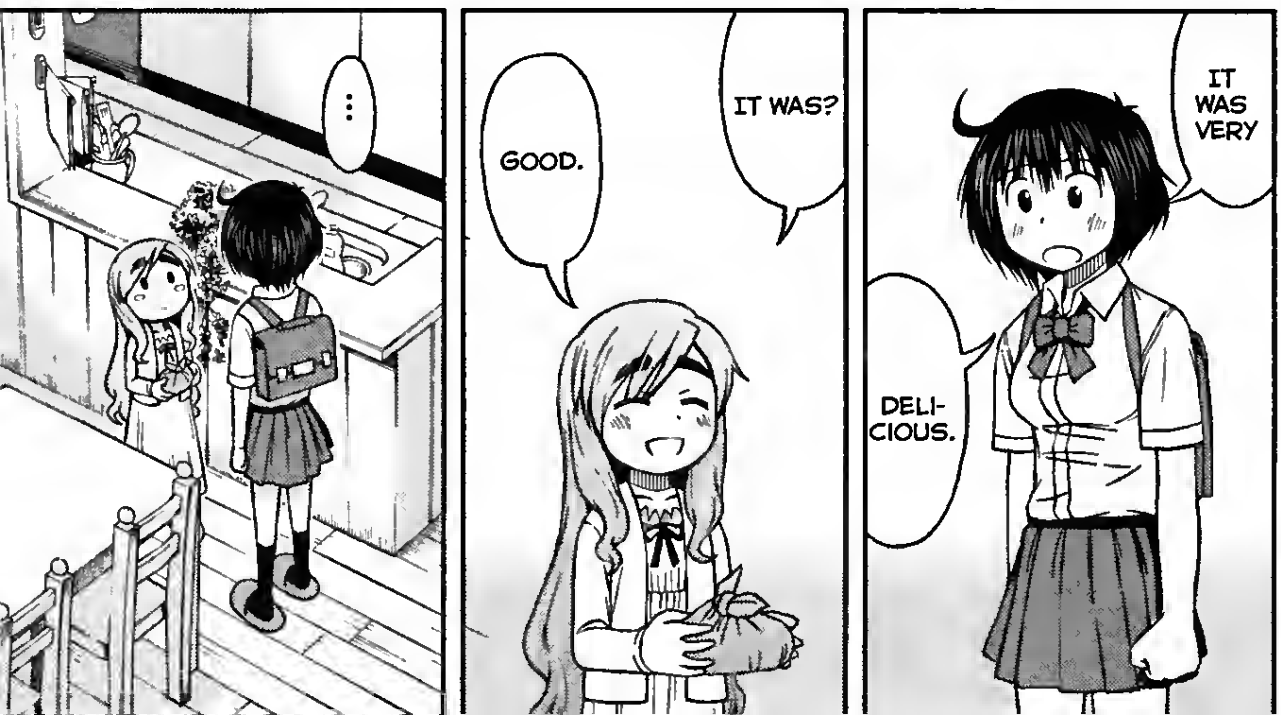
WHAT WAS I SAYING?
TO PLAY THE ROLE OF OUR MOTHER, MOMO.
NEITHER ME OR KOUTA WANT YOU

I'VE BEEN RELYING ON HER PLENTY AS A MOTHER.
IN THE END...


JUST EATING IT LIKE AN IDIOT WITHOUT FEELING ANYTHING...
THAT'S A NO-NO, I THINK.
WITHOUT ME REALIZING IT, IT'S BECOME NORMAL FOR A LUNCH TO BE PREPARED FOR ME EVERY MORNING
...OH WELL. I CAN'T HELP BUT RELY ON HER.


WELCOME HOME, HIMARI.

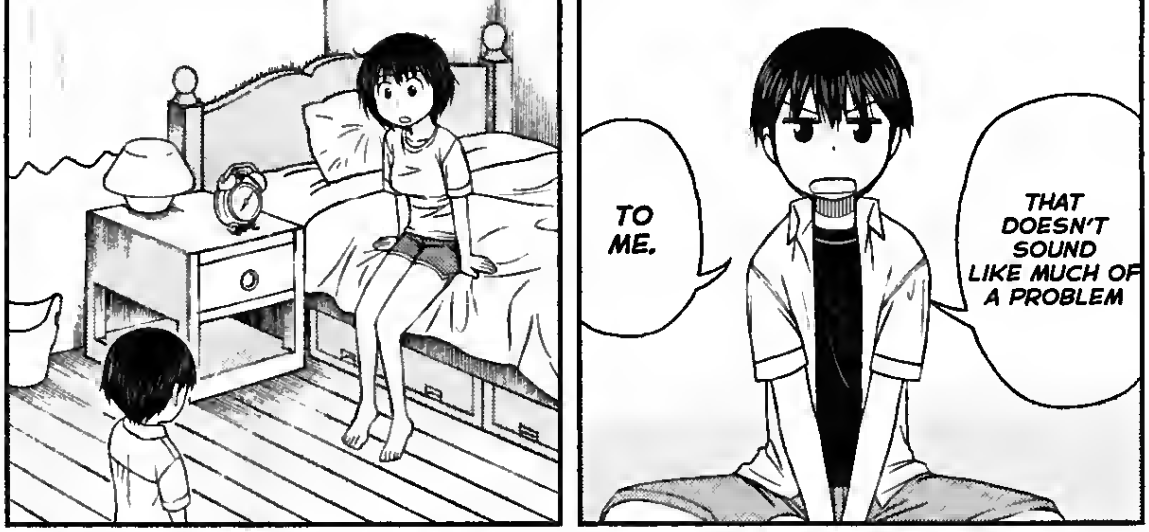
MY LUNCH-BOX...
THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL.
YOU'RE WELCOME.


...
IT WAS?
GOOD.
IT WAS VERY
DELI-CIOUS.

Ahahaha
IT'S NOTHING.
?
NO.
AH-
?
IS SOME-THING WRONG?

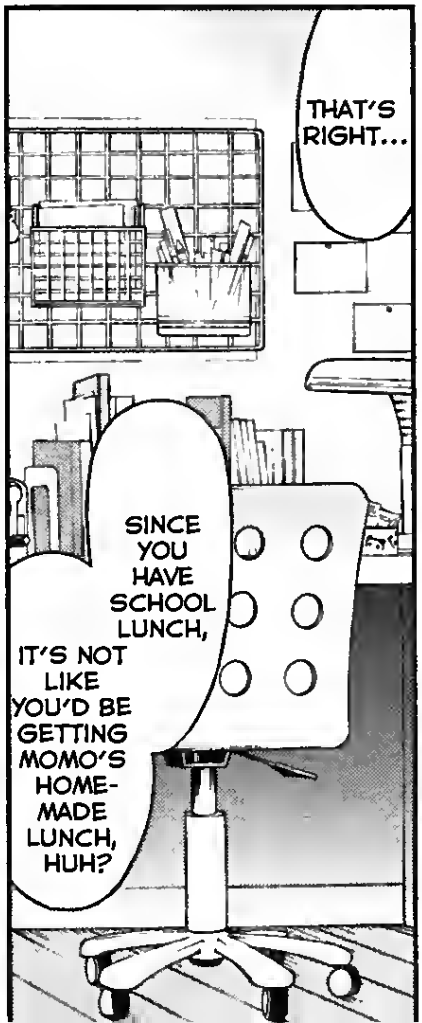
BUT, SOME-THING LIKE THAT...
I WONDER HOW I SHOULD SAY IT.
I WONDER IF I SHOULD START ALL OVER AND TRY TO REALLY RELATE MY FEELING OF GRATITUDE TOWARDS HER
I AM GRATEFUL.
MOMO.
FOR MAKING ME LUNCH.
I WANT TO SIN-CERELY THANK YOU

……
WHAT'RE YOU MURMURING ABOUT TO YOURSELF?
AH, OKAY.
I CAME TO GIVE BACK YOUR JAPANESE DICTIONARY.
KOUTA, YOU LITTLE-!
DON'T JUST COME INTO MY ROOM WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING!
I KNOCKED AND CALLED OUT TO YOU, YOU KNOW.
I'VE GOT A LITTLE PROBLEM I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT.
WHAT?
…
…SAY, KOUTA.
国語辞典


THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE MUCH OF A PROBLEM
TO ME.

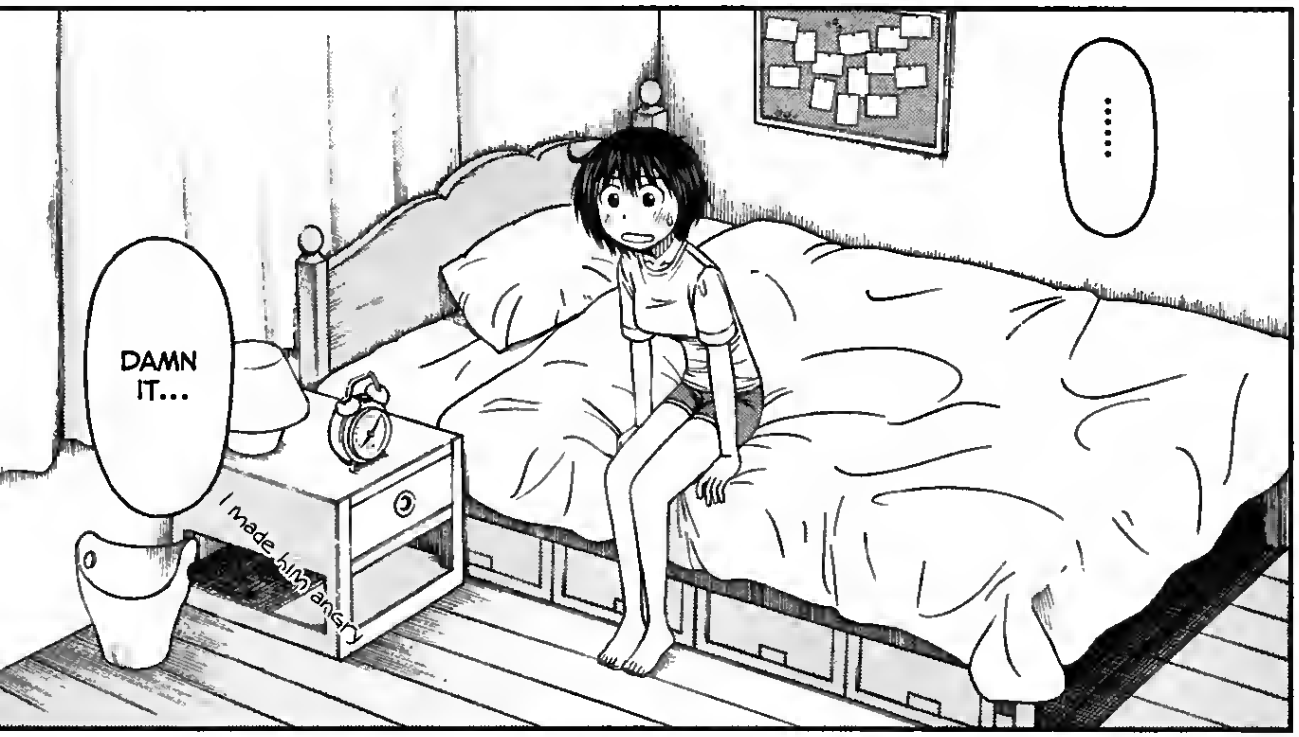
...
WHAT?
YOU'RE ANGRY?
I'M NOT ANGRY!

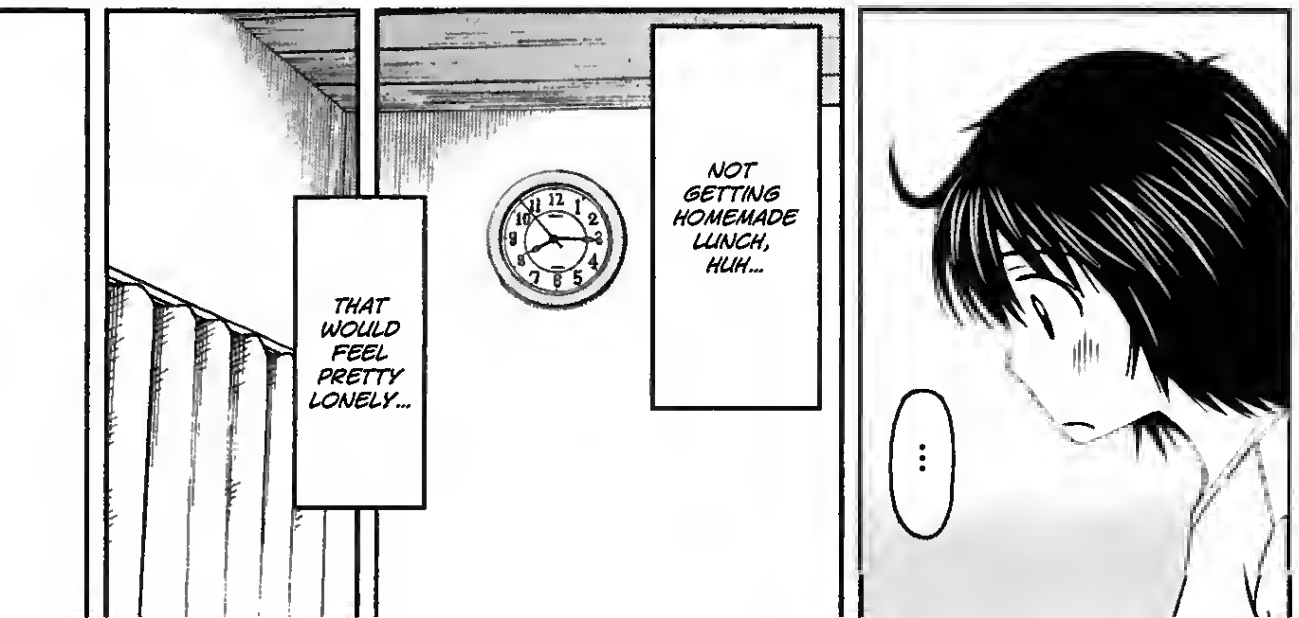
I WASN'T THINKING.
SORRY, SORRY.

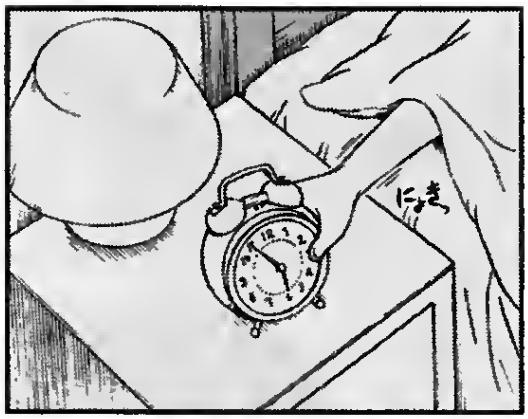

THAT'S RIGHT...
SINCE YOU HAVE SCHOOL LUNCH, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'D BE GETTING MOMO'S HOME-MADE LUNCH, HUH?

AH!

I'M GONNA GO TAKE A BATH NOW.


.....
DAMN IT...
I made him angry


NOT GETTING HOMEMADE LUNCH, HUH...
THAT WOULD FEEL PRETTY LONELY...
...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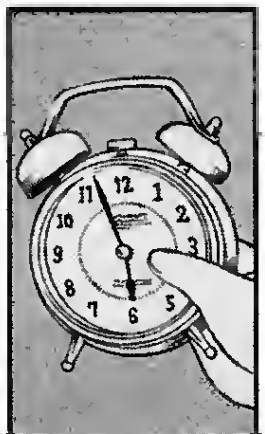
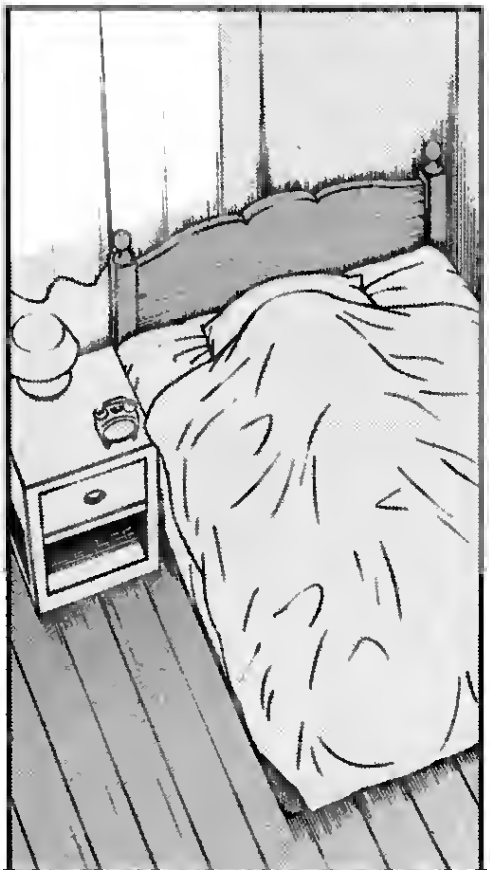
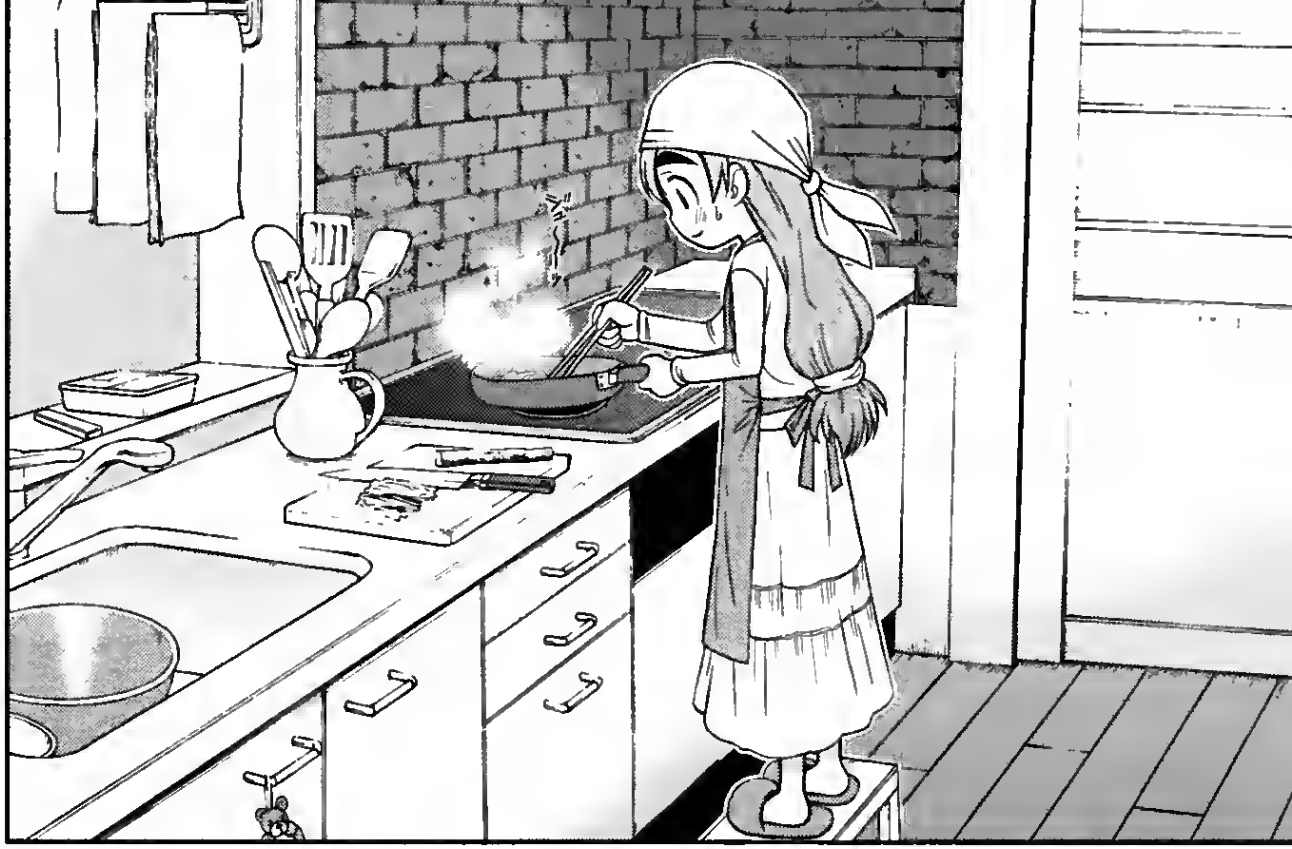
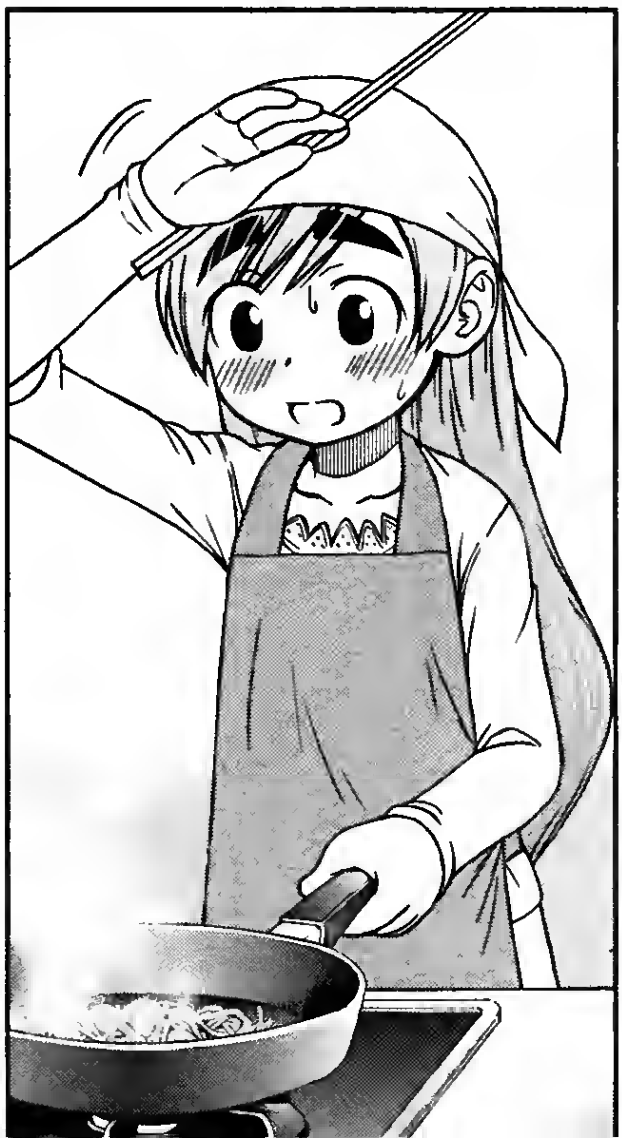
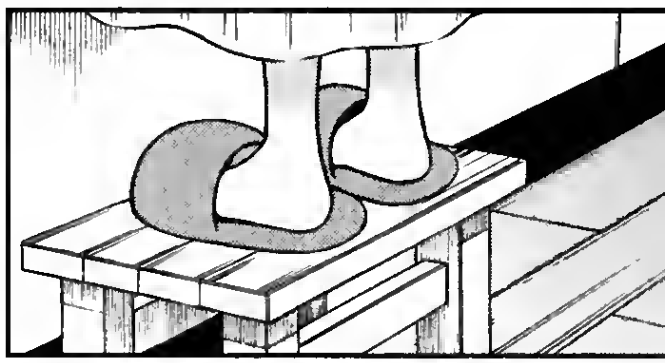


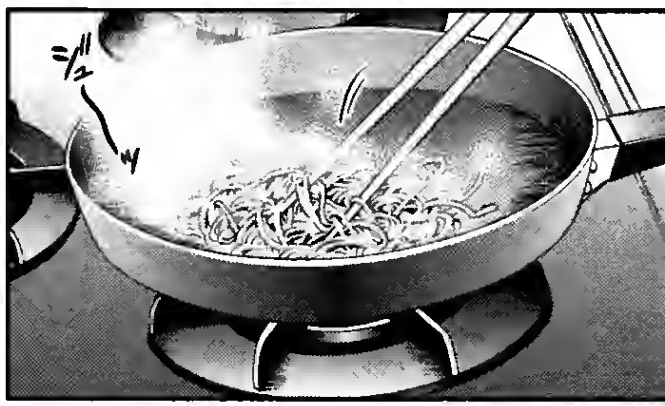


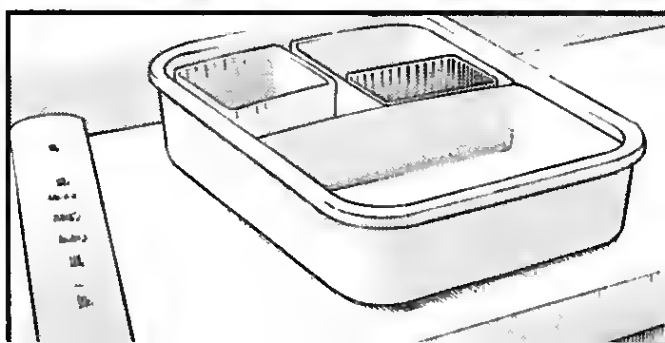
...
Bath-room
I can still sleep in for an hour
...
MOMO?
yawn

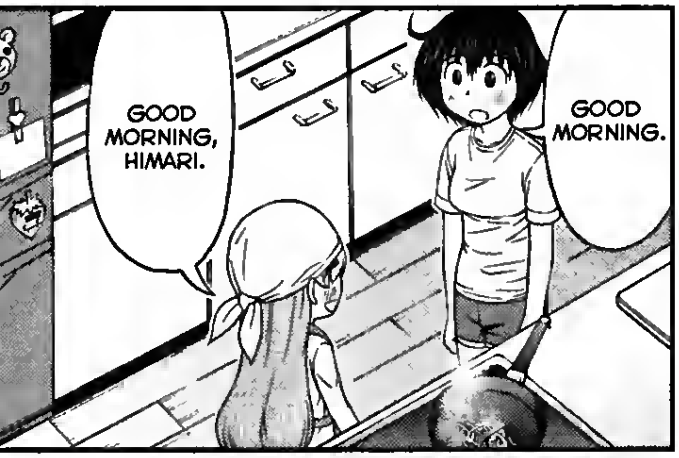




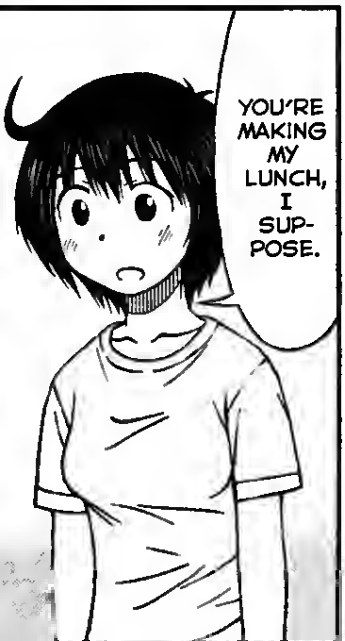




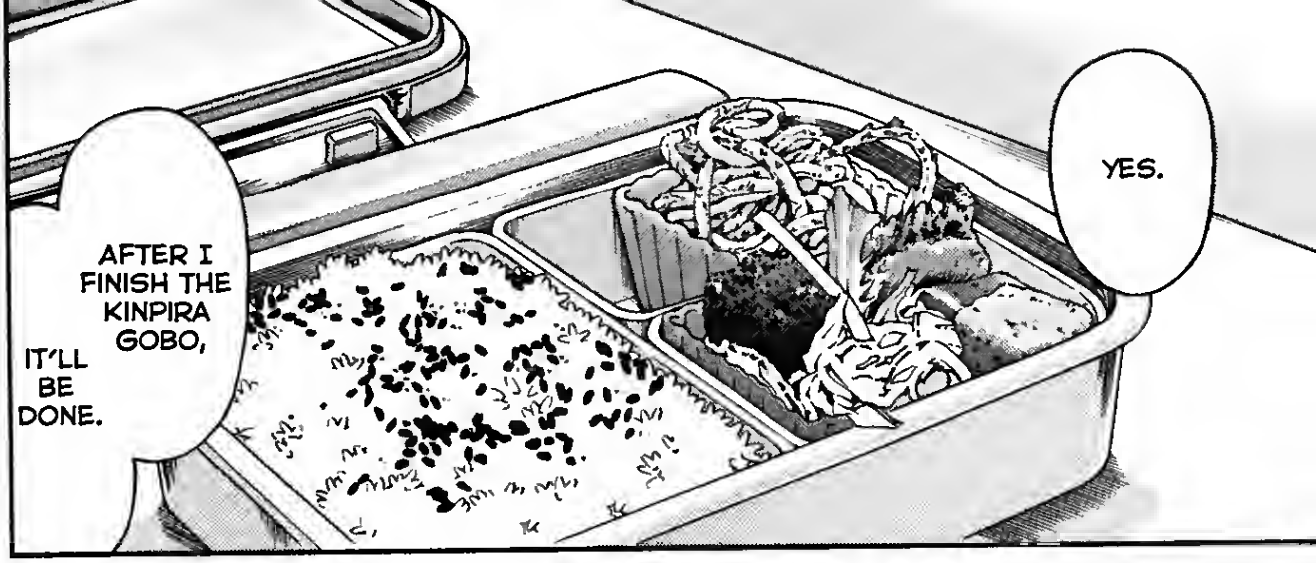


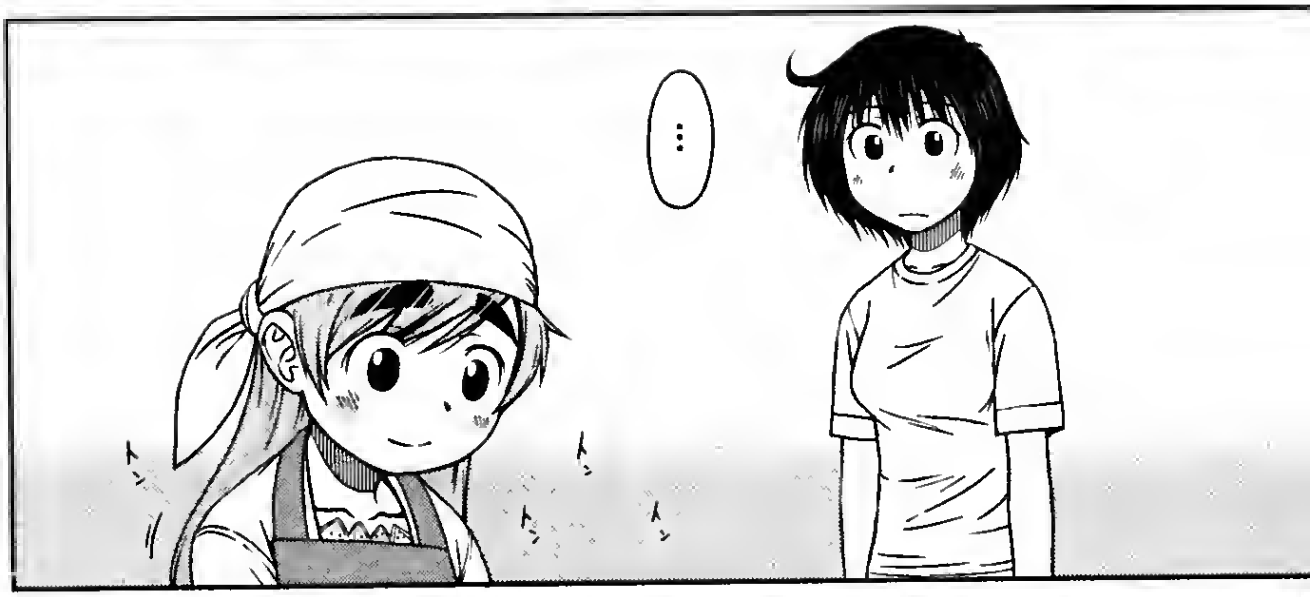

GOOD MORNING, HIMARI.
GOOD MORNING.

MOMO.

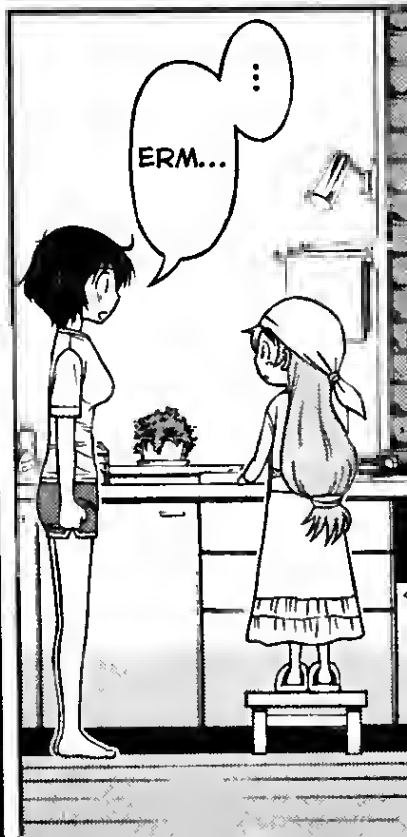

YOU'RE MAKING MY LUNCH, I SUP-POSE.

HIMARI, YOU'RE UP EARLY TODAY, AREN'T YOU?
I WOKE UP, SOME-HOW.


YES.
AFTER I FINISH THE KINPIRA GOBO, IT'LL BE DONE.

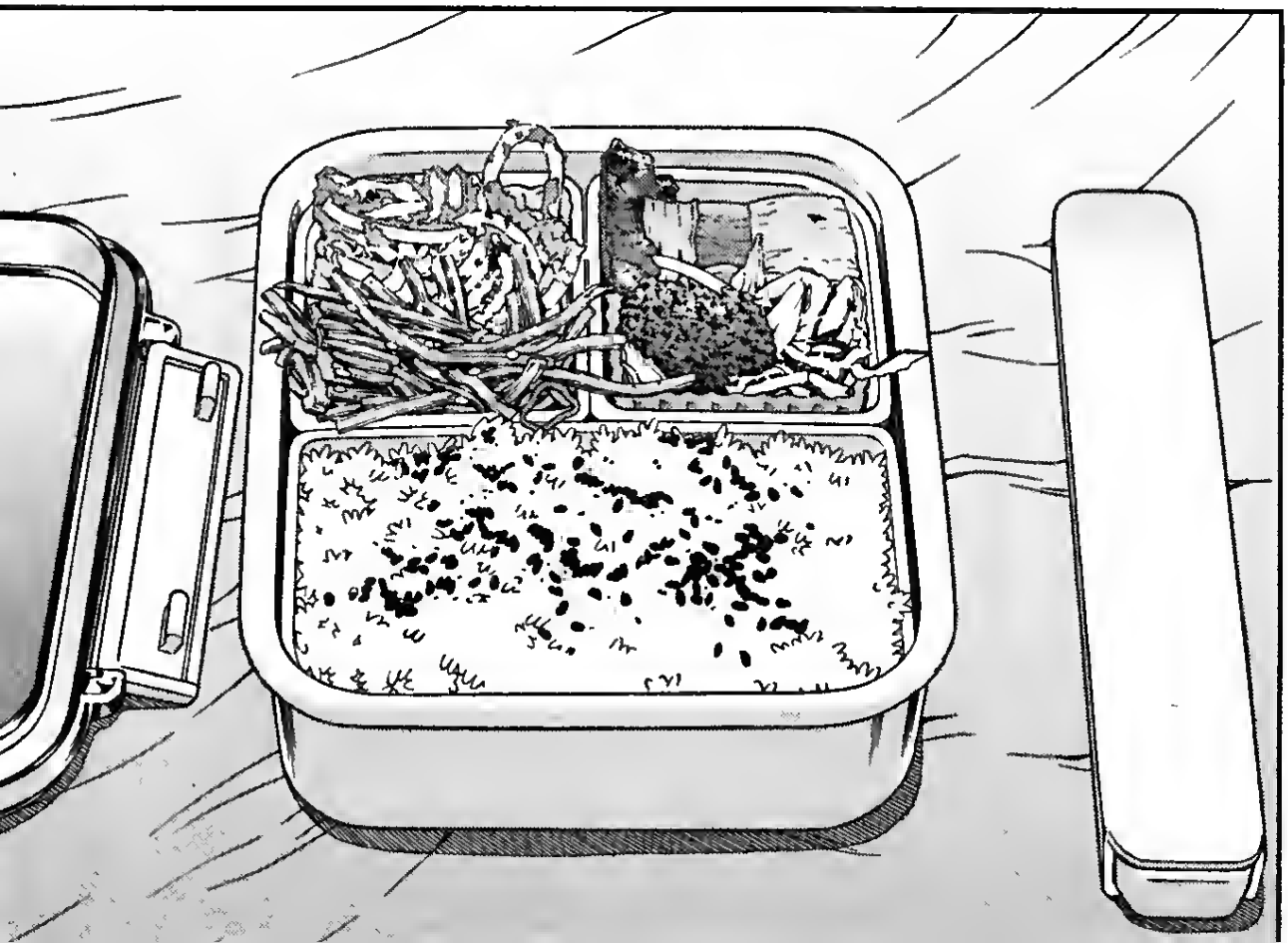

...

THAT KINPIRA GOBO...
MAY I MAKE IT?


...
ERM...

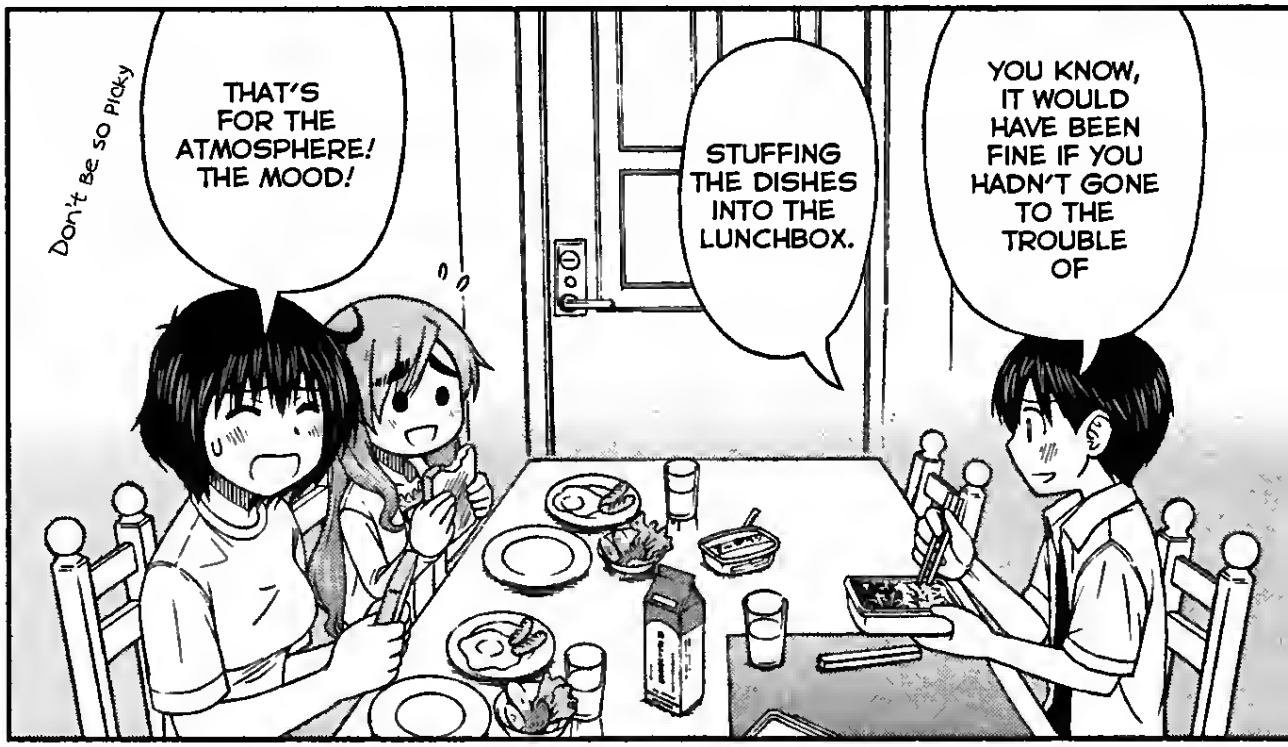
OKAY.
WHY DON'T WE MAKE IT TOGETHER?
YES.

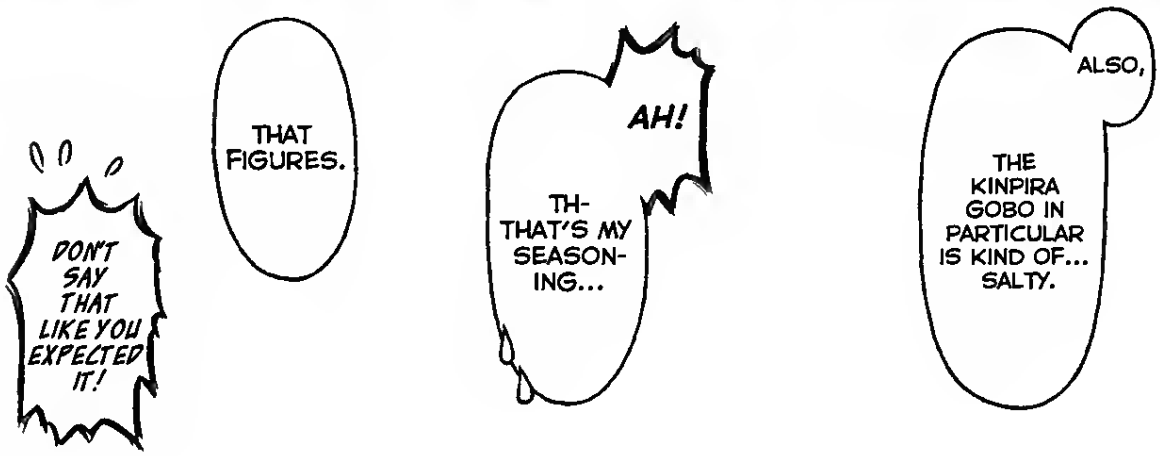
I HAVE ONE MORE REQUEST.
ALSO...



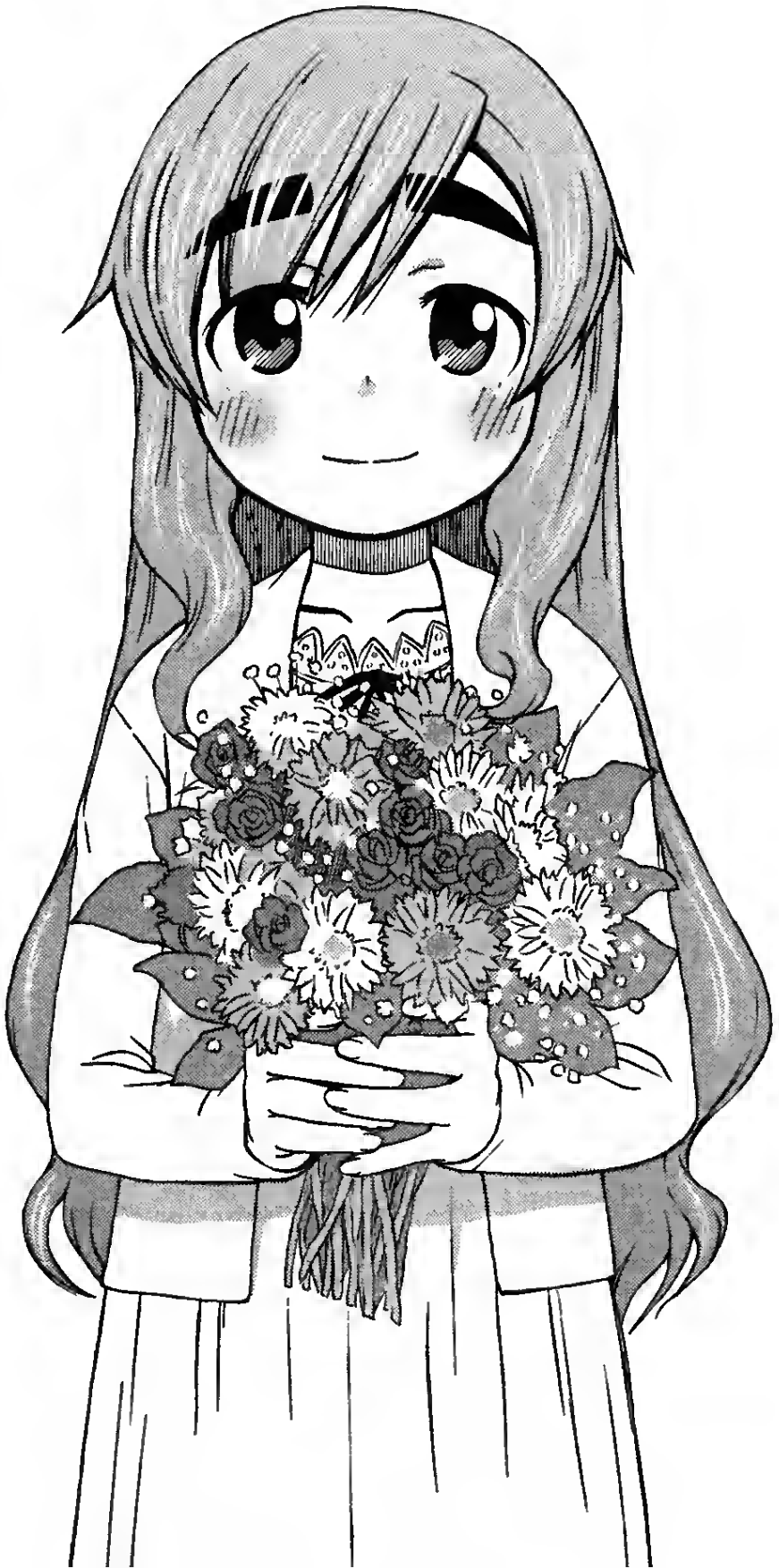
SINCE, YESTERDAY, YOU MADE A FACE LIKE YOU WANTED TO EAT IT.
"KOU DEFINITELY WANTS TO EAT HOMEMADE LUNCH TOO."
WE MADE IT BECAUSE HIMARI SAID

IT'S GOOD.
...


Don't be so picky
THAT'S FOR THE ATMOSPHERE! THE MOOD!
STUFFING THE DISHES INTO THE LUNCHBOX.
YOU KNOW, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE IF YOU HADN'T GONE TO THE TROUBLE OF


DON'T SAY THAT LIKE YOU EXPECTED IT!
THAT FIGURES.
AH!
TH-THAT'S MY SEASON-ING...
ALSO,
THE KINPIRA GOBO IN PARTICULAR IS KIND OF... SALTY.

Chapter 11 New Life



WHAT, YOU MEAN THIS?
WHOA!
IT'S A NICE WATER-MELON, ISN'T IT?
IT'S SUPER HUGE!
WAIT, WAIT.
THEN, LET'S EAT IT RIGHT AWAY.
OH HH HH?
He said it was our share.
THIS MORNING, MISTER NOGUCHI CAME OVER TO GIVE IT TO US.

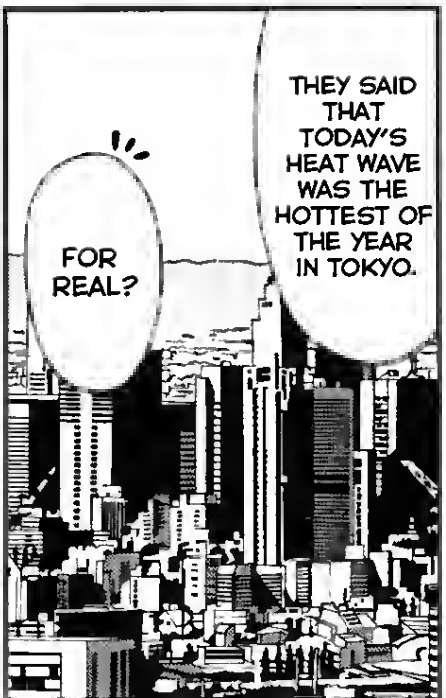
THAT'S OKAY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
AH, THEN I'LL CARRY IT TO THE KITCHEN.
FIRST, WE'VE GOTTA COOL IT DOWN.
We'll use a washbasin filled with ice water to cool it
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I MAY LOOK LIKE THIS, BUT
I'M FAIRLY STRONG.
HGG HH!
HNN GG GH!
NNN NGG GGH!
MMM MGG GGH!
...UM.
WILL YOU CARRY IT FOR ME AFTER ALL, HIMARI?
I'm so sorry
YE~S.

サアアアア
チリン
チリン
サアアアア
YEAAAAA~H
IT'S NICE AND COMFY OUT.

HEY, KOUTA.
HAS SUMMER ALWAYS BEEN THIS PLEASANT?

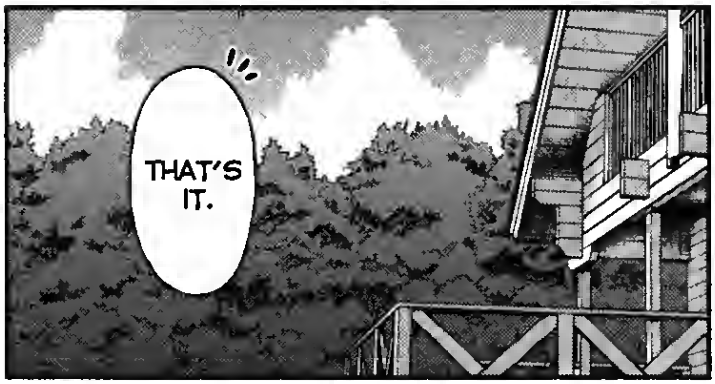
IT'S PLEASANT BECAUSE UNLIKE TOKYO
THIS AREA'S A HIGHLAND SO
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SUMMERTIME THE TEMPERATURE DOESN'T REALLY HIT THE SAME EXTREMES.

HO HO HO.

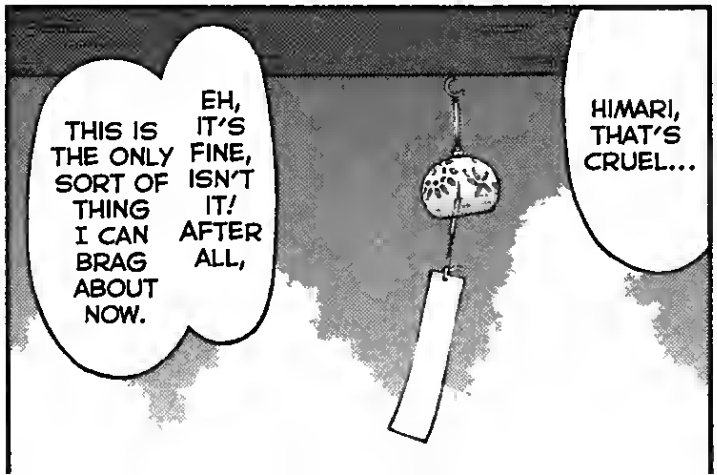

THEY SAID THAT TODAY'S HEAT WAVE WAS THE HOTTEST OF THE YEAR IN TOKYO.
FOR REAL?

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT,
WHEN I WAS WATCHING TV EARLIER

Hooray!
I'VE FINALLY FOUND AN ADVANTAGE THIS PLACE HAS OVER TOKYO.
AN ADVANTAGE!


THAT'S IT.

I'LL TRY CALLING AKKI LATER
AND BRAGGING A BUNCH ABOUT THIS.


HIMARI, THAT'S CRUEL...
EH, IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT! AFTER ALL, THIS IS THE ONLY SORT OF THING I CAN BRAG ABOUT NOW.

IS THAT RI~GHT, A HEAT WA~VE?
Heh heh heh
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, GOOD OLD AKKI WILL DEFINITELY BE EXHAUSTED FROM THE HEAT.

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITI~NG!
THE WATER MELON'S HERE!
IT'S NOT SALTED, BUT I THINK IT'LL TASTE FINE.
I'M DIGGING IN!
MMM MMM!
YUM-MY~!
Good.

Shee-
e~sh!
It's really terrible here, it's like this every day.

I WANT TO GO THERE AND ENJOY THE COOL SUMMER, TOO.

CALLING IT A "HEAT ISLAND" IS PUTTING IT TOO MILDLY.

It's hot as hell. Hot. As. Hell.
AHAHA.

No... that place is nothing special, believe me.
I WANT TO GO SEE IT TOO.
WHAT WAS IT... "LOVE SHOUTING HILL"?

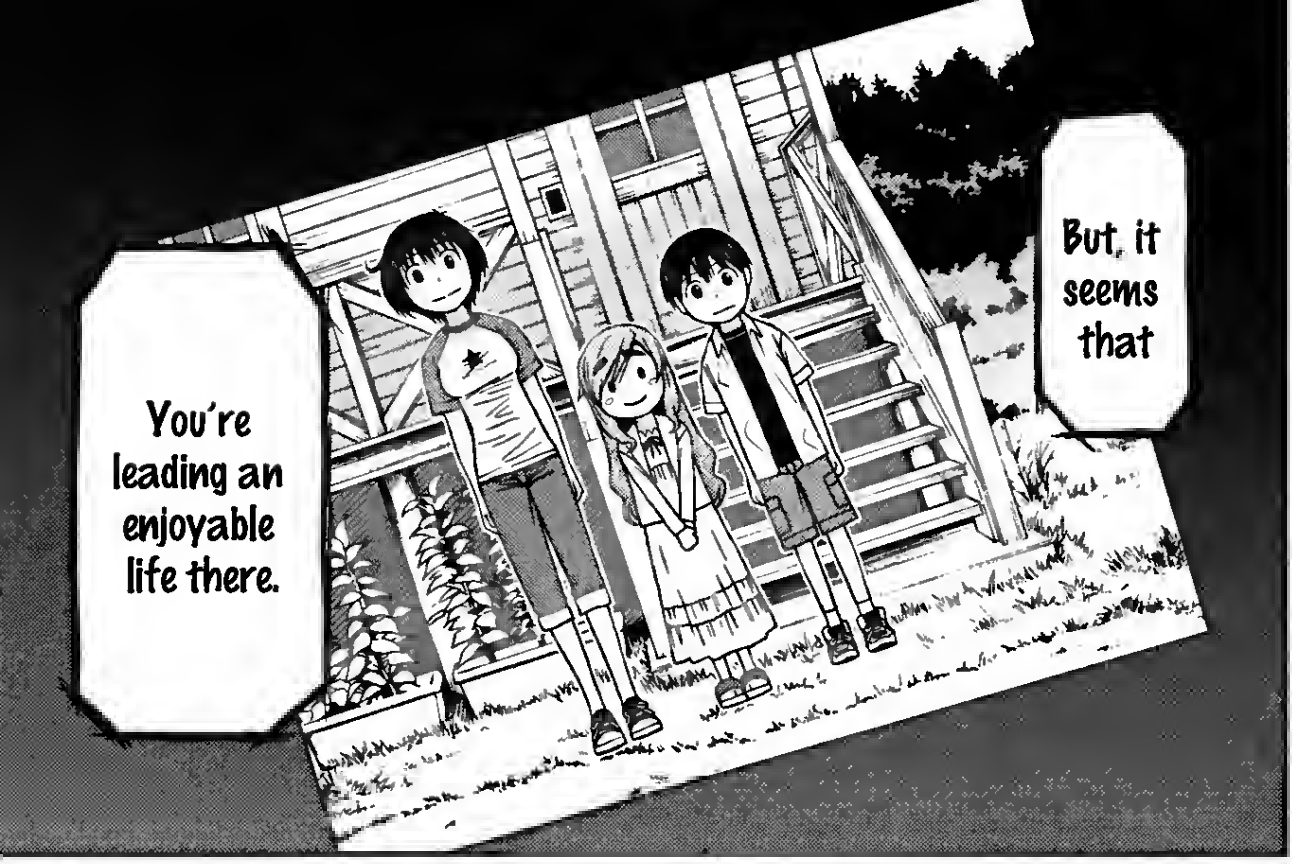
But to think you'd send the memory card itself. I didn't expect that.
HA HA...
OH, YEAH.
THANKS FOR SENDING ME ALL THOSE PHOTO-GRAPHS.
SORRY.
THAT'S BECAUSE THERE ARE NO SHOPS THAT CAN PRINT PHOTOS ANYWHERE AROUND HERE.
Ahaha!
Even though you can print from a copy machine at a convenience store these days.
Unbelievable...
BUT, YOU KNOW
No matter how you look at it, she just looks like an elementary schooler.
Is that person in the picture seriously your new mother?
HA HA...
I LOOKED AT THE PICTURES.

Somehow it seems like you're getting along well with your new mother.
You are, aren't you?

YEAH.
...

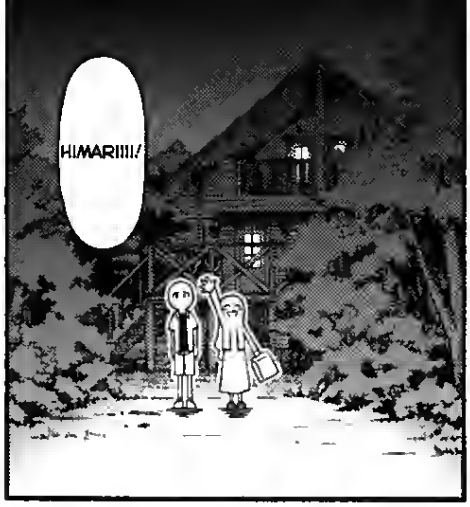
When we heard you were going to live way out in the country with a stepmother that you don't know that well,
everyone wondered if you'd be ok.
At first, you know...

I SUPPOSE I AM, BIT BY BIT.
Ahahaha
What's that supposed to mean?

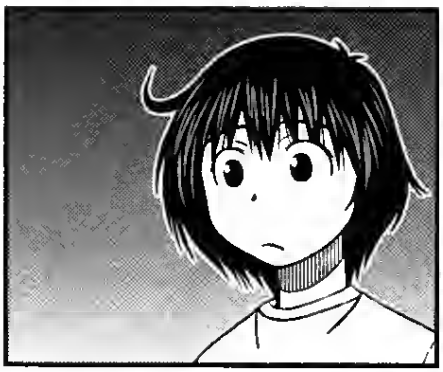

You're leading an enjoyable life there.
But, it seems that

...
YEAH ...

THANK GOOD-NESS.

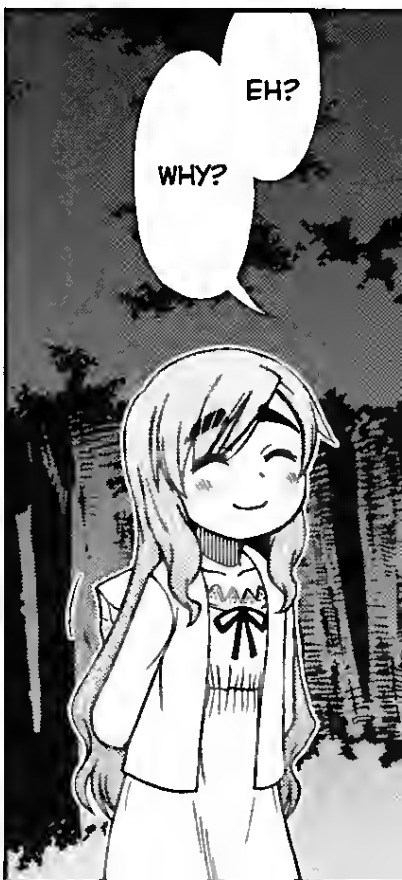

HIMARI!!!!

WE WERE WAITING FOR YOU, HIMARI.
WHY'RE YOU TWO OUT-SIDE?
WHAT'S UP?
?



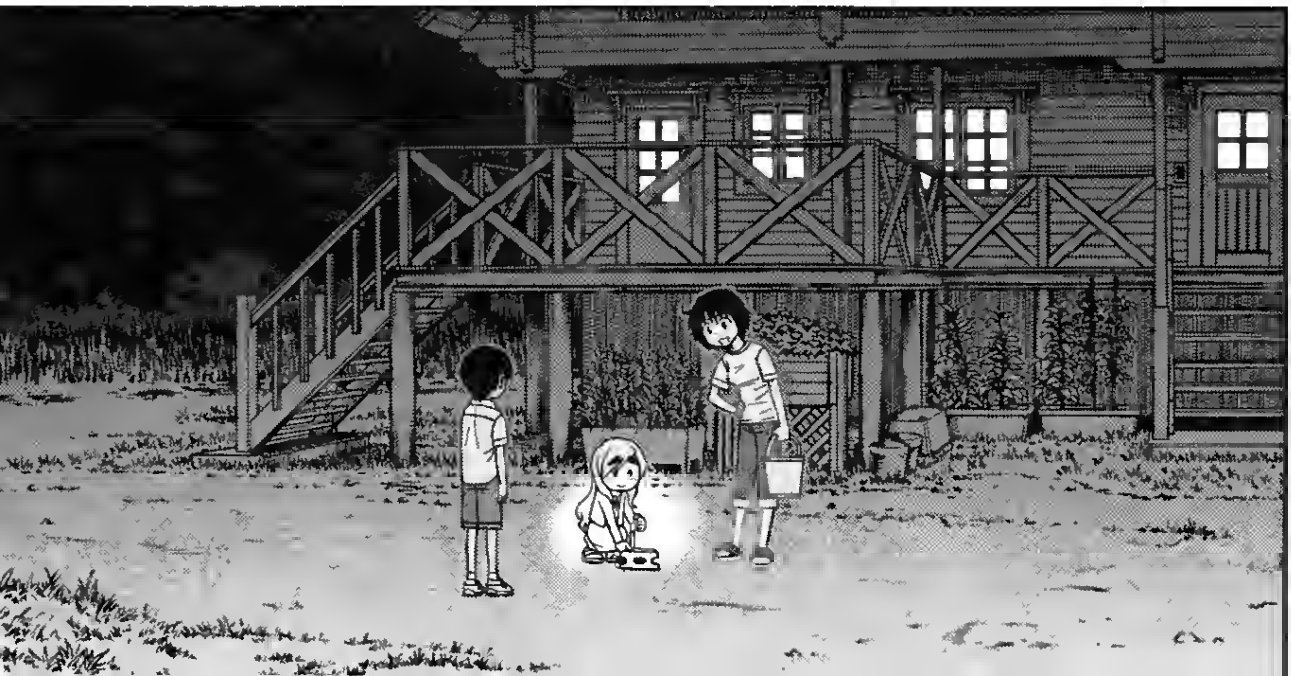
AH!

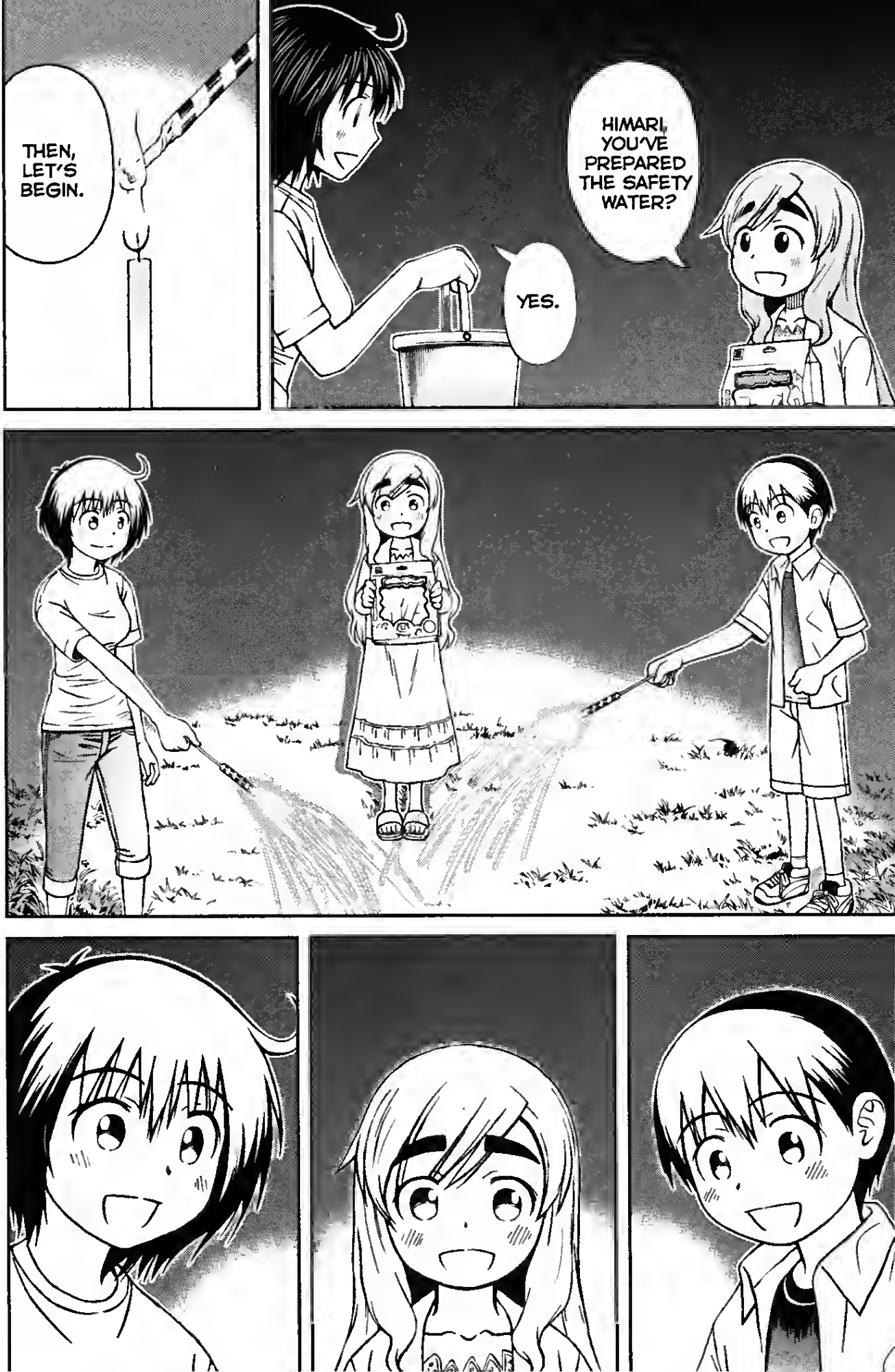
TA-DA!
THIS.


EH?
WHY?

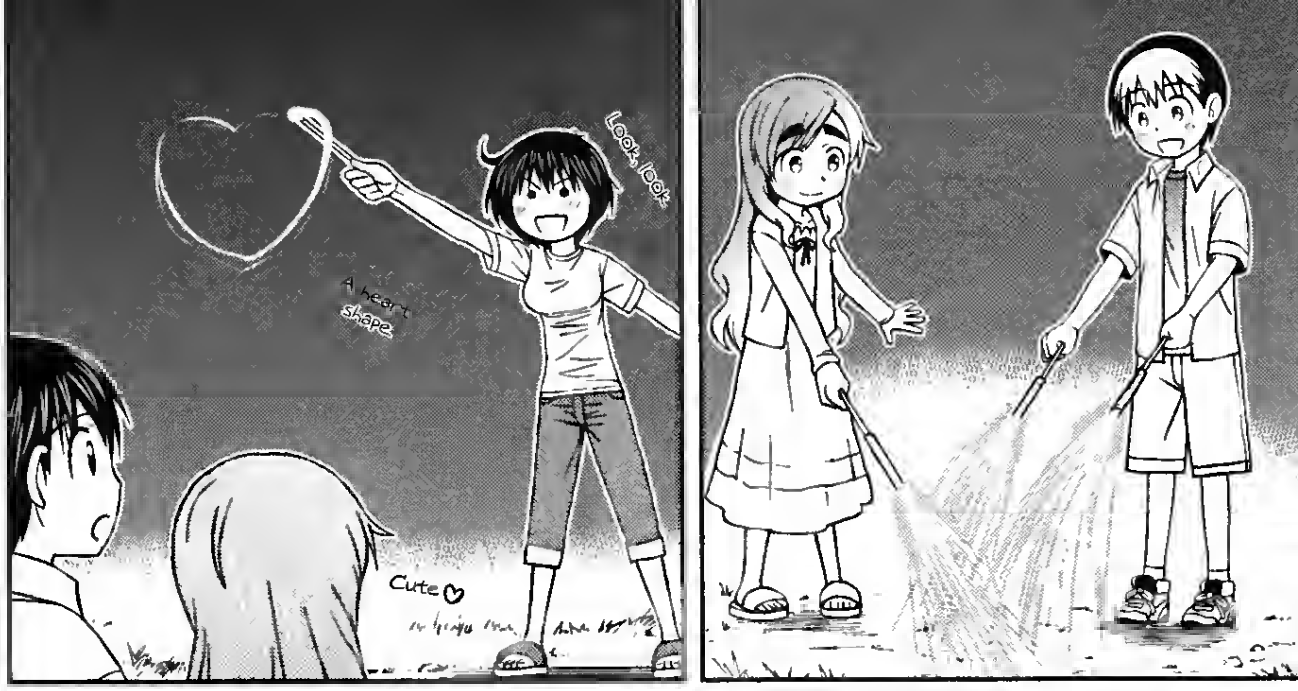
2個入り
はなびパーティー
白
両面入ってます
スパー
はなび
やろー!
FIRE-WORKS.

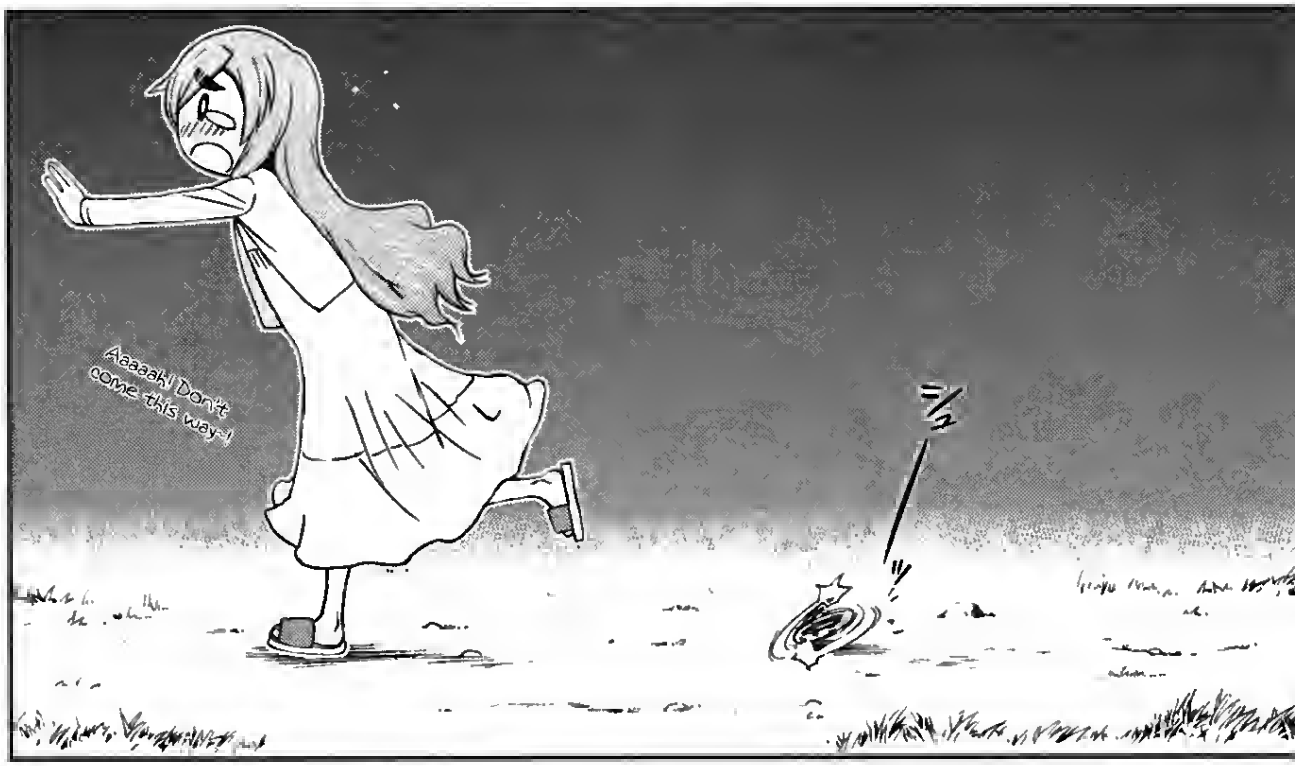
THE TRUTH IS, I GOT THESE THIS MORNING.
NOGUCHI GAVE THEM TO US ALONG WITH THE WATER-MELON.
I WAS THINKING US THREE COULD ENJOY THEM TOGE-THER WHEN YOU CAME BACK, HIMARI.
YEAH, LET'S DO THAT.

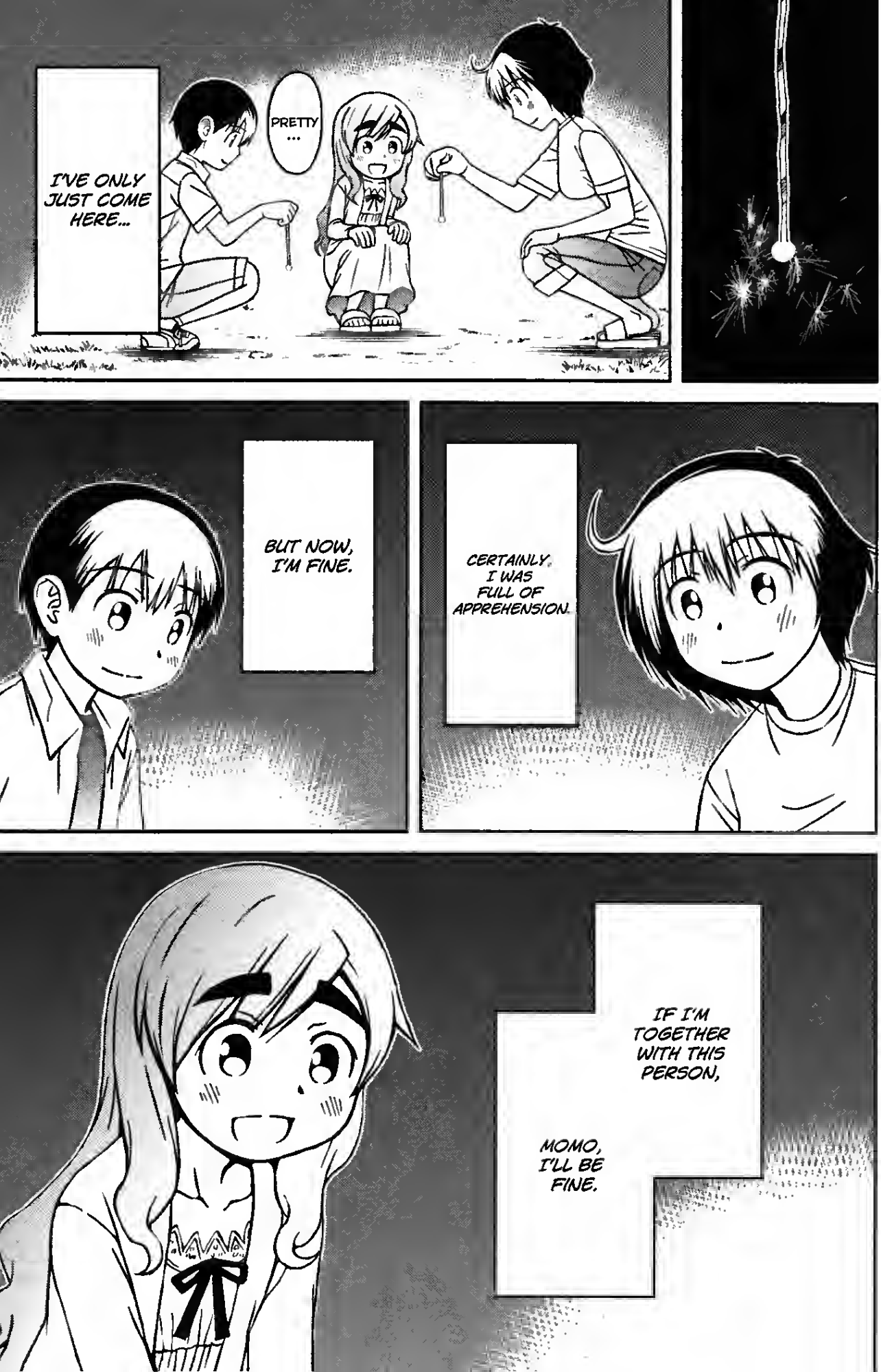



THEN, LET'S BEGIN.
HIMARI, YOU'VE PREPARED THE SAFETY WATER?
YES.

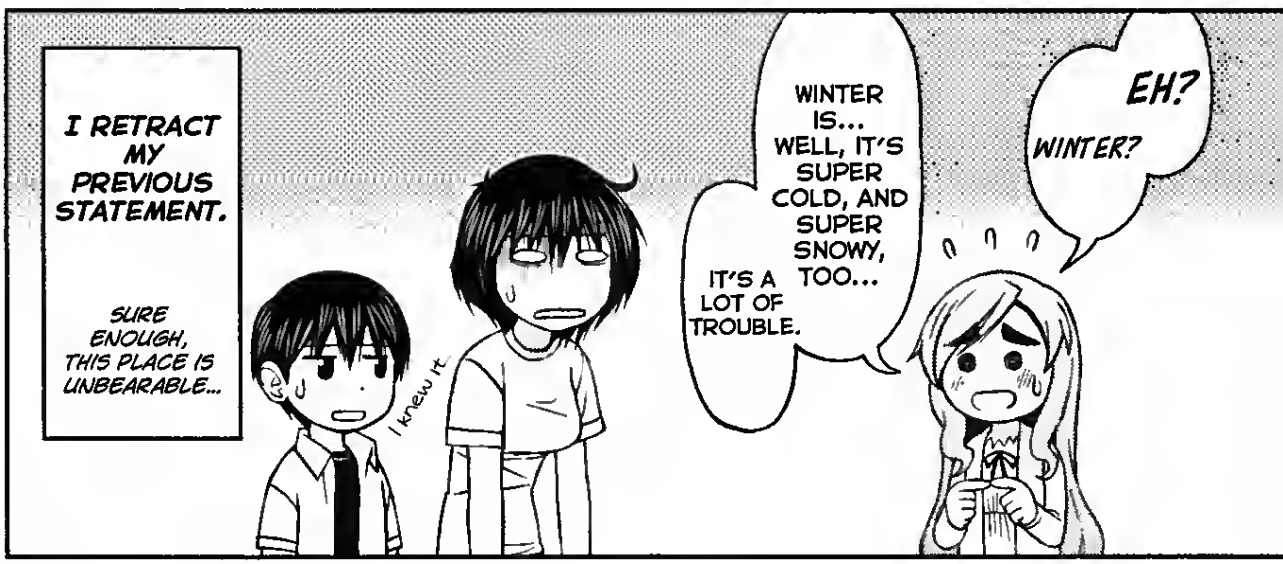
IT'S GOING.
Momo, you're being too jittery.
WHY DON'T WE TRY THIS NEXT?
AMAZING!
WHOA!


Look, look!
A heart shape.
Cute♡


Aaaaah! Don't come this way!


I'VE ONLY JUST COME HERE...
PRETTY ...
BUT NOW, I'M FINE.
CERTAINLY, I WAS FULL OF APPREHENSION.
IF I'M TOGETHER WITH THIS PERSON,
MOMO, I'LL BE FINE.

I THINK I'LL DEFINITELY
BE ABLE TO LEAD A BEAUTIFUL NEW LIFE IN THE COUNTRY...


I RETRACT MY PREVIOUS STATEMENT.
SURE ENOUGH, THIS PLACE IS UNBEARABLE...
I knew it.
WINTER IS... WELL, IT'S SUPER COLD, AND SUPER SNOWY, TOO... IT'S A LOT OF TROUBLE.
EH? WINTER?